

the map, why, again, in the name of all that is good and holy are we getting ready to spend \$5.6 billion to take the C-4 missiles off our Pacific fleet and replace them with the D-5 missiles? Do you know why? Because the Navy wants it, and the Navy and the industrial complex have the power to get it.

We had a serious debate in the appropriations committee on this, and as I started to say earlier, I thought I had won that debate. I thought the committee was agreeing with me. I thought the committee agreed that it would be the height of foolishness to retrofit those submarines in the Pacific when the warheads and the missiles on them will last longer than the submarines. No question about it.

So what are we going to do here when the cold war has long since ceased to exist? We are going to scare the life out of the Russians by modernizing our ballistic missile submarine fleet and spend \$5.6 billion that we could save doing it. We may also keep the Russians from ratifying START II.

Oh, I could go on and on about what an utter waste of money that is. Did you know that those C-4 warheads I just described for you and the missiles on which they sit will last longer than the submarines? We are not even going to backfit four of the submarines because they are going to be retired before the C-4 missile will have lived out its usefulness.

So, Mr. President, I do, indeed, get agitated about these things, and I get frustrated.

The people sent us here to do a job as best we see fit.

When I see the needs of this country, when I see an educational system that needs to be fixed, when I see a planet threatened by environmental concerns, and when I see us fighting over who is going to get highway money to take care of the 200 million vehicles in this country, I get frustrated. Mr. President, do you know, just sort of digressing for a moment, when I was a young marine in World War II, I remember seeing in one of the papers in California that we had 30 million vehicles on the road.

You know how many we have today? Two hundred million. By the year 2050, at the rate we are going, we will have 400 million. Mother Teresa was the exemplification of a woman who lived the consummate Judeo-Christian life, God bless her soul, but she was fighting a losing battle from the very beginning. When she was a young novitiate, India had 250 million people. Today, they have almost 800 million. Mother Teresa was fighting a losing battle.

The highway commissions in our respective 50 States are fighting a losing battle, too. They are trying to build more highways, wider highways to accommodate 30 percent of all the vehicles in the world. Those 200 million vehicles in this country are 30 percent of all the vehicles in the world.

We are going to have to think differently and act differently if we are

going to deal with our transportation needs in the future, or every city in America is going to be in gridlock.

In that connection, in putting that in the context of another burning issue around here called global warming, those 200 million vehicles contribute 27 percent of all the world's greenhouse gases that the United States throws into the stratosphere.

When you think of what it is going to cost to clean up all the Superfund sites in this country. To try to keep our water and air clean, and when I looked at the kind of money we spend on defense, so much of which is wasted, I had to come to the floor to make this speech.

I did not want to vote against the defense budget. I just simply say I thought it was too much money. It was a lot more than too much money. It was putting weapons systems in mothballs that have long lives left. It was buying weapons systems we do not need. It was cold war mentality at its worst when the cold war is over.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. KOHL addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin is recognized.

Mr. KOHL. Thank you, Mr. President.

CHILD SAFETY LOCKS

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, today eight of the largest gun manufacturers voluntarily agreed to include safety locks with every handgun they sell. I rise today to commend the President and the gun industry for their historic efforts.

This agreement addresses a very serious problem. Every year, many hundreds of children die from accidental shootings and thousands more try to take their own lives with guns. Encouraging parents to use safety locks will not save all of these young lives, to be sure, but it will save many of them. It will make a difference.

This deal, however, would not have been possible without the public outcry over these tragedies and the growing momentum for bipartisan child safety lock legislation. Our measure, which lost by a single vote in the Judiciary Committee this summer, requires the sale of a safety lock with every handgun.

Mr. President, in my opinion voluntary action is always better than Government regulation. For that reason, when we entered into negotiations with gun manufacturers, we asked them to take this dramatic step on their own initiative. Today we are very pleased that most of the industry has responded so that 80 percent of all handguns manufactured in the United States will now be sold with child safety locks. But we will continue to push until the half million more handguns, including those manufactured abroad, are also covered.

We will also continue to encourage voluntary compliance, but until we

have the support of the entire industry, we will move to enact our legislation. It should be easier now because most of the industry is already on board.

Mr. President, today's announcement is an important step for safety and a victory for families and children everywhere. We should all be grateful.

I thank you and yield the floor.

Mr. D'AMATO addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York is recognized.

TERRORISM

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I would like to speak to an issue which confronts us nationally and which we, as a nation, seem to be ducking. I am talking about terrorism. I am talking about the need for this country to stand up and be counted in its fight against international terrorism whenever and wherever it occurs.

Today, Americans are threatened by two very distinct but serious kinds of terrorism. The first is international terrorism.

Mr. President, I am proud of my efforts that helped to pass the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act, a law designed to stop two renegade nations from having the means necessary to finance international terrorism—by punishing those companies who do business with them. The French oil company, Total, is trying to test our resolve. Total has struck a lucrative oil deal with Iran. This company is thumbing its nose at the United States. I believe it is incumbent upon us to remain strong in the face of these efforts to undermine our fight against terrorism. I call upon the French Government to join the fight against international terrorism, not to thumb its nose at the United States, not to applaud the efforts of Total.

I believe that our laws must be enforced and its strict sanctions must be brought to bear on Total. Every Member of this body, Mr. President, voted for the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act.

It is only when we see planes being shot down, it is only when the victims and their families come and say, What are you doing? that we stand up and take action. Every Member of this body should be outraged that Total has thumbed its nose at this ban. They did so deliberately. Its actions are an insult not only to this body but to all of the nations of the world who should be working together in a united front against terrorism.

Fighting international terrorism requires every nation to unite together, and it requires that we remain resolute. It requires that we put corporate greed and profits on the back burner. Many of our own companies are so worried about international profits.

But let me tell you, when terrorism strikes here, when you see what takes place, then an aroused American public gets us to do something. Only when we see the bombing at the World Trade Center—that is real; impacting people's lives—and when we see the Iranians

and the Libyans give sanctuary to terrorists, only then will we maybe do something. But then some say, Not when corporate profits get in the way. Or our allies may say, Oh, no, don't do this, knowing that these are renegade governments and countries who sponsor terrorist attacks, who are responsible for over 300 U.S. citizens being killed—and the Libyans were and they now give sanctuary to two men who have been indicted.

No. Sadly, we have to do something. I am very concerned that the administration will shirk its responsibility.

Sadly, I also rise today to describe another kind of terrorism, Mr. President. It is one that is too often seen but little done. It is one that permeates our Nation's school systems, particularly inner-city schools. It is a terrorism in which violent juveniles prey upon good kids. And it has to stop.

Just as we must be united and remain resolute in our fight against international terrorism, we must be united and remain resolute in the fight at home. Once again, each and every one of us has a responsibility to stand up and fight this terrorism to make a difference. Business as usual is no longer acceptable. There is no more fundamental right in our democracy than the right of our children to have a good education. That requires that they be safe. That requires that a school be an oasis for learning.

Many people have asked me why I have taken such a public and outspoken position as it relates to education reforms. New Yorkers may have been shocked when they read yesterday's newspapers of gang violence in the public schools.

I point to those headlines. "Probe Rips Principals for Turning Blind Eye to the Gangs." The story in the New York Post turns to the issue of the gangs which have taken over schools.

The Daily News: "Fear Stalks Hallways as Hoods Take Over." One student says that he feels at times safer—safer—in dangerous neighborhoods at night than he does walking in the hallways.

We are not talking about violence in streets and alleys. This violence is taking place inside our schools, which should be sanctuaries to our children. That means that the real victims are our children. Just as we must stand up to Total and other companies who give aid and comfort to international regimes, we must stand up to the terrorism that is occurring in our classrooms. We must get violent and disruptive juveniles out of the classrooms so good kids can learn. We need fundamental sweeping reforms throughout our educational system.

In addition to getting violent and disruptive juveniles out of the classrooms, Mr. President, we need to give merit pay to the outstanding teachers, those who are dedicated, those who want to make a difference and those who do make a difference. We have to

see that we have tenure reform in order to get those teachers who are not performing, who are bad teachers out of the classroom.

We need school choice so that parents can make educational decisions instead of Government bureaucrats.

Finally, Mr. President, we have to stand up to the teachers unions and tell them to put our children first. Unfortunately, the unions are more interested in their perks and privileges than they are in providing a good education for our children.

Above all, we must get violent and disruptive juveniles out of schools. I want to see more power given to our school principals to remove violent juveniles from the classrooms. We cannot tolerate the kind of situation that is taking place in more and more of our schools in more and more of our cities to more and more of our children.

Principals should have fast-track authority. You want to talk about fast-track authority for trade? Give our principals fast-track authority to expel gang members and other violent offenders. That is what we really need to be doing to help this country and to help the educational system.

Just like in the fight against international terrorism, more pressure has to be brought to bear on terrorism in our schools. The fight against terrorism in our schools must be a united fight. The teachers unions, who opposed every commonsense reform, surely can agree with the notion that violence in schools must be stopped. Instead of pushing for more pay and less work for teachers, the teachers unions should join me and others in a united effort to combat violence in our schools.

That is why I have been standing up to those who ask the question, "Why do you talk about this?" We have had debates about educational reform and getting more money directly to the District so they can spend it on students, not bureaucrats. We have had debates about giving parents choice so they can give their kids an opportunity to receive a quality education. But let me say something. In every one of those situations we have seen the teachers unions come down and oppose this. They are against merit pay. They are against getting bad teachers out. They want to ensure lifetime contracts. They are interested in perks and privileges.

By gosh, for one time, join with us and see to it that we have meaningful reforms so that we can fast track violent students out of the schools, so that good and decent kids have an opportunity to have a good education, so that children can learn in safety.

Mr. President, I do not think there is a more important fight against terrorism that we can and must and should win than that which confronts our children every day, unfortunately, in too many of the schools throughout this country.

I yield the floor.

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

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

INTERMODAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY ACT

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, yesterday the Senate began consideration of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1997, or sometimes referred to as ISTEA II.

This legislation is the product of well over a year of hard work and careful negotiation.

We had three different proposals, Mr. President, all commendable, and the requirement before us was to integrate these different proposals into one unified plan that all of us could rally around. When I say us, I was, of course, talking about the committee at the time, the 18 members of the Environment and Public Works Committee, but hopefully the entire Senate. When I am taking about 18 members, I, of course, am referring to Democrats and Republicans.

I am pleased that the bill before the Senate truly represents a consensus effort with cosponsors from all regions of the country and from both sides of the aisle. The results of these efforts, so-called ISTEA II—ISTEA, again, referring to Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1997—provides \$145 billion over the next 6 years for our Federal highway, highway safety, and other surface transportation systems.

Mr. President, this is a 20-percent increase for the Federal aid highway program over the level provided in the original ISTEA, which stretched from 1991 to 1997 a, 6-year bill. This bill preserves and builds upon the laudable goals of intermodalism, flexibility, and efficiency, all of which goals were found in the original ISTEA legislation.

It does so within the parameters of the balanced budget agreement that Congress passed just 2 months ago, Mr. President. In my view, the most important aspect of this bill is that it works within the context of a balanced budget. We were given x amount of dollars, we stayed within that x amount of dollars. I feel very strongly about that, Mr. President.

On the Nation's highways you get to where you are going by staying within the lines and playing by the rules. The budget is no different. I am very proud that the program that we brought out of the Environment and Public Works Committee, so-called ISTEA II, stays within the parameters of the balanced budget, a budget, as I say, we only adopted 2 months ago.