

REPORT OF THE SENATE DELEGATION VISIT TO
ASIA, NOVEMBER 8-17, 1996

SUMMARY AND FINDINGS

A delegation from the United States Senate, consisting of Democratic Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD), Senator John Glenn (D-OH), Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND) and Senator Dirk Kempthorne (R-ID), met with leading officials in Vietnam, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan during a trip to that region from November 8-17, 1996. The delegation's mission was to explore firsthand U.S. policy issues in this part of the world where the United States has important national security, humanitarian and economic interests.

In each country, the delegation discussed various aspects of U.S. policy with high level government officials. In meetings in Vietnam, they raised a variety of important U.S. policy interests, beginning with the high priority the United States places on resolving remaining cases of U.S. service members reported missing in action (MIA). They also discussed the need for a comprehensive trade agreement and the issues that must be addressed before one can be completed. They raised a number of other issues, including urging greater cooperation on Agent Orange research issues; pressing the need or improvements in Vietnam's human rights practices; requesting that the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi be relocated to a more central location in the city closer to most of the organizations with which it works; and encouraging the Vietnamese to resolve remaining immigration issues and remove existing obstacles to trade.

In these meetings, the Vietnamese expressed a willingness to work with the U.S. to resolve problems in U.S.-Vietnamese bilateral relations. They clearly understood the importance of the MIA issue and pledged cooperation. They appeared to welcome the trade that has taken place in the absence of a comprehensive trade agreement and looked forward to expanding trade with such an agreement. The Vietnamese acknowledged that they had a way to go in modifying their laws and practices to enter fully the international marketplace. In addition, they were eager to have the National Assembly, their legislative branch, host a congressional delegation for the first time. They expressed strong interest in expanding contracts between our respective legislative branches in the future.

The Chinese leaders with whom the delegation met appeared very interested in moving U.S.-Chinese relations in a more positive direction. The delegation had a good exchange of views with the Chinese in a number of areas, including expressing the importance to the United States of human rights practices; the need for improvements in China's trade policies to open its markets and increase opportunities for U.S. exports; and the need for additional attention in the area of nuclear proliferation. They heard varying levels of acknowledgment of U.S. positions and willingness to work with us.

The delegation also discussed with the Chinese the upcoming July 1, 1997 transition in which Hong Kong reverts to Chinese sovereignty. The delegation indicated that it is very important to the U.S. that the transition go smoothly, and the Chinese said that they wished to see that outcome as well. The delegation also met with a wide range of Hong Kong residents to assess their views on the transition. Some were quite optimistic, as were the U.S. businesses with whom the delegation met. Others were more cautious and pointed out the potential for conflict.

The delegation had a number of discussions with leaders in China and Taiwan about the relations between Taiwan and the Mainland.

Both sides indicated that tensions had diminished since the U.S. sent carriers to the Taiwan Straits shortly before Taiwan's March 1996 election. However, the delegation observed a wide gulf between each side's interpretation of the relations between them and the prospects for reunification.

TOM DASCHLE,
JOHN GLENN,
PATRICK LEAHY,
BYRON DORGAN,
DIRK KEMPTHORNE.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, May 7, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,336,081,916,565.07 (five trillion, three hundred thirty-six billion, eighty-one million, nine hundred sixteen thousand, five hundred sixty-five dollars and seven cents).

One year ago, May 7, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,093,910,000,000 (five trillion, ninety-three billion, nine hundred ten million).

Five years ago, May 7, 1992, the Federal debt stood at \$3,883,035,000,000 (three trillion, eight hundred eighty-three billion, thirty-five million).

Ten years ago, May 7, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,272,537,000,000 (two trillion, two hundred seventy-two billion, five hundred thirty-seven million).

Fifteen years ago, May 7, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,057,931,000,000 (one trillion, fifty-seven billion, nine hundred thirty-one million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,278,150,916,565.07 (four trillion, two hundred seventy-eight billion, one hundred fifty million, nine hundred sixteen thousand, five hundred sixty-five dollars and seven cents) during the past 15 years.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I observe the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

WE CAN SAY WE WERE PART OF
SOMETHING

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, the tragic days of the Dirty Thirties are still remembered by many in my State. As an unbreakable drought settled over our region, the fields dried and the crops withered. Hot, dry winds whipped the dust into dark clouds that blew over the land and settled in great drifts on the ground. It was a desperate time for our State. Destitute and facing foreclosure, many South Dakotans had no choice but to abandon the farms in which they had invested countless years of labor. These losses rippled through our economy with a devastating effect, stripping businesses of their livelihood and farmworkers of

their jobs. As the lines of the unemployed grew, so did a feeling of hopelessness among our people.

It was in the midst of this terrible Depression that one of our Nation's greatest Presidents, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, offered hope to the people of South Dakota. Through the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration [WPA], he provided jobs for South Dakotans, and gave us back the dignity that comes with earning your keep. Roosevelt's mark can still be seen across the State, where the thousands of people he put to work left stadiums, sewer systems, and miles of highways and sidewalks as their legacy.

In Milbank, a quiet, friendly town in the northeast corner of my State, the WPA-built municipal water system still ingeniously delivers water from springs outside of town without the work of a single pump. And only recently was the stretch of Highway 12 that runs through Milbank, built by WPA workers and nearly six decades old, finally repaved.

After all Franklin Roosevelt gave to South Dakota and the people of Milbank, I am pleased to say that we have had the rare and wonderful opportunity to give something back to him. Mr. President, last week the long-awaited memorial to Franklin Roosevelt was unveiled. Over 800 feet long, its rough-hewn granite walls form outdoor rooms that honor each of Roosevelt's four terms as President.

I am proud to say that the stone for this memorial was quarried by workers in Milbank. Nearly 60 years after Roosevelt put the citizens of Milbank to work in the WPA, they have again been hard at work for him, cutting and hammering the granite for our memorial to the man who led our Nation through its worst depression and most terrible war.

Quarrying this granite has been a source of deep inspiration and pride for the workers of the Cold Springs Granite Co., which owns the quarry. Often working in the bitter cold, their fierce dedication ensured that the 4,500 hundred tons of stone they cut reached Washington safely and on schedule.

This was no mean feat—to meet the needs of the memorial, the 3-billion-year-old layer of granite that runs beneath Milbank was cut in pieces weighing up to 100 tons. These monstrous stones then had to be carefully raised, without cracking or falling, from the base of a pit 140 feet beneath the ground. Once they reached the surface, the stones were sent by flatbed truck to Cold Springs, MN, where workers shaped them according to the models of Lawrence Halprin, the designer of the monument. According to workers like Frank Hermans, who has worked in the quarry his entire adult life, the job gave him and his coworkers the chance to leave their mark in history. "We can say we were part of something," he said. "Not many get the chance to say that."

I know I speak for my colleagues as I say thank you to the workers of Milbank for their dedication and hours of labor. Their efforts have helped the Nation to honor a man who gave us hope when we were hopeless and the determination to fight when our freedom was threatened.

Mr. President, the Washington Post recently printed an outstanding article on quarrying of the memorial's granite. I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, May 2, 1997]

BY PROUD TOIL, STONE IS HEWN INTO HISTORY

(By Peter Finn)

MILBANK, S.D.—The wind chill was 70 below one Saturday last November when the six quarrymen working in a deep gouge in the earth here had to move one last piece of granite. It was a 65-ton colossus.

The rock had been quarried loose a month earlier, but the permit to transport it on state roads to a factory in Cold Spring, Minn., for cutting and shaping stated that it had to go that day, bonechilling temperatures notwithstanding.

"We had the warn clothes on," said Frank Hermans, the quarry foreman. "But your face hurt. It was a cold one."

It took three excruciating hours to bring the granite up from the 140-foot-deep quarry, making sure it did not fall or crack. Hermans, his face chapped and burnished, felt a fierce satisfaction as he watched it leave on a flatbed truck.

"We can say we were part of something," said the 46-year-old, who has worked down in "the hole," as he calls it, since he was a teenager. "Not many get to say that."

Now, six months later, that piece of granite is a base stone in one of four fountains at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, which will be dedicated today on a 7½-acre site by the Tidal Basin.

The memorial's dominant feature is its granite spine, an 800-foot-long meandering wall that forms four outdoor rooms, each representing one of FDR's presidential terms. The 12-foot-high wall defines the memorial sculpture and fountains, embracing and guiding the visitor through Roosevelt's time, the years of the Great Depression and World War II.

"As the stone gets rougher and rougher, the emotion builds up," said landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, the memorial's designer. With the progression of the wall into the room representing World War II, the stone's face becomes increasingly irregular. "I'm choreographing experiences."

From the quarry here on the dull Dakota flatlands to Washington, where today's dignitary-studded dedication will take place, the hands of many people gave physical life to Halprin's artistry. Working hands. Hands that hammered and gouged and chiseled the stone. Hands that blistered and calloused and ached. Hands that bled passion as well as sweat.

The schedule wore on the workers. One got shots of cortisone in his shoulder to keep working. Another, who was responsible for coordinating all the stonework, literally lost his hair last year under the strain of meeting deadlines. When it grew back this year, it had turned white.

"This was very personal for us," said LaVern Maile, 55, a stonemason at Cold Spring Granite Co., which owns the quarry and cut the stone for the memorial—enough to build an 80-story building.

"It was a monster of a job," he said. "I don't think any of us realized until we were halfway into it just how big it was. And probably that was just as well."

The Milbank quarry, once a natural outcropping of stone valued for its reddish hue, is now a vast tear that extends 1,000 feet long and 650 feet across as it falls in terraces to its deepest point of 140 feet. Surveys estimate that the granite runs for 12 miles under this desolate plain. Each year this slice of earth yields 463,000 tons of stone for malls, banks, office buildings and grave markers.

Here, in the swirl of red and gray dust kicked up daily by heavy machinery and the boom of explosives cracking rock, Halprin first laid hands on his creation. He chose this granite 22 years ago because the rock closely resembled the stone FDR had selected for additions to the family estate at Hyde Park, N.Y.

The granite is called carnelian, a derivative of the Latin word for flesh. It is 2 billion years old, dating from the pre-Cambrian era, the period before there was abundant life on Earth. The granite formed when molten rocks deep in the earth's crust solidified and either rose to the surface or were exposed by erosion.

Halprin says the wall, too, will endure. He promises it will still be standing 3,000 years from now.

The architect drew and made models of every stone he wanted in the memorial—their lengths, shapes, protrusions, recesses, smoothness and roughness. "I could see every stone in my mind," said Halprin, comparing the process to the way a composer documents musical arrangements.

If Halprin was the composer and conductor, a select group of Minnesota stonemasons was his orchestra.

Stonemason Wally Leither, 55, carried drawings of each block as he prowled the quarry looking for granite that matched Halprin's specifications.

Usually, granite is blasted loose with explosives, but because Halprin's demands were so specific and explosives leave long rivets on the outside of the stone, Leither had to cut most of the blocks for the memorial by hand.

Using jackhammers, he drilled holes into the stone every four inches, shaping a piece of stone. Two pieces of steel were placed in the shallow holes, and an iron wedge was hammered between them.

"We'd let it sit like that overnight, and the stone would crack with the pressure," said Leither, whose graying mustache doesn't quite hide a persistent smile. "It was slow work."

Stone was first cut for the memorial in 1991 after Congress appropriated the \$42.5 million in public funds needed to build it. (An additional \$5.5 million came in private donations.) Over the last six years, 15,000 tons of stone was chipped from the earth in South Dakota and trucked two hours east to Minnesota to the Cold Spring Granite Co., where 4,500 tons of it was cut and shaped. The contract for quarrying and preparing the granite was \$6.35 million, according to the National Park Service.

Halprin visited the quarry frequently, sometimes becoming seized with excitement when he saw a particular stone and adjusting his design to incorporate it if Leither told him the men could get it out just as Halprin imagined it would look.

"I've never seen anyone look at stone quite like him," said Don Noll, 57, the West Coast Salesman for Cold Spring Granite, who accompanied Halprin on some of his trips to South Dakota. "Each stone has a personality with him. Where I saw nothing except a chunk of rock, he saw part of a fountain. He'd stand in front of stone and say, 'Do you

see it? Do you see it?' And I'd say, 'See what, Larry? What do you see?'"

Some uses of the granite came about by happenstance.

In 1978, at the New Jersey studio of George Segal, one of four sculptors who worked on the memorial, Halprin and the others were discussing how to depict World War II in stone. But their ideas seemed uninspired. As they stood over a stone model of the wall, someone waved his hand in agitation, knocking down a section and creating a pile of rubble.

"Suddenly we all realized we had captured the destructive image that expressed what we needed," Halprin recalled.

The Cold Spring Granite Co.'s fabrication plant in Minnesota is a sea of thundering industry: furnaces that blast granite at 1,800 degrees to give it a thermal finish, 10-foot-high wire saws that pulsate rhythmically as they slice the stone, and huge polishing units that smooth the granite. High above the shop floor, cranes straddle the width of the factory, lifting slabs of granite some weighing several tons, with suction cups.

That machinery cut and finished the granite paving stones that visitors to the memorial will walk on, as well as the smooth blocks on which carver John Benson sandblasted some of FDR's words.

But no machine could give the wall stone the roughness that the landscape architect desired.

Leither and Maile and three other stonemasons, Mervile Sabrowsky, 56, Dean Hemmech, 39, and Kraig Kussatz, 38, began work on the rock faces the public would view. They started with 16-pound hammer sets, then moved to smaller and smaller chisels until the stone began to resemble Halprin's drawings.

"It looks easy, but if you take too much, you ruin the granite," Leither said. "Sometimes we had to compromise with Larry. He wanted it a certain way, and we had to say we can't take that much off."

Over the last three years, the pace has been furious. The team of four stonemasons tried to work on at least nine blocks a day, always starting three and finishing three each shift.

Some of the larger stones could not fit in the factory, so the cutters had to work outside, standing on massive chunks of stone and hammering away. One stone was reduced from 92 tons to 40 tons before it was sent to Washington.

Part of the wall's effect is the sense that one huge block is stacked atop another. In fact, in much of the wall the granite is no more than 10 inches thick, the back having been sheared away. Behind it, in a two-inch space, stainless steel anchors hook the granite slabs to an unseen concrete wall that runs inside the memorial, ensuring that the granite cannot fall.

Neither Maile nor Leither has any specific memories of FDR; each was a young child when the President died in 1945. "My day was strong Democratic," Maile said. "He talked about him. He enjoyed him."

Through the FDR Memorial, however, Maile and Leither, along with hundreds of other Cold Spring Granite employees, felt the excitement of leaving a little stamp on history, a mark not easily made in the anonymity of small-town factory work.

"Someday I know that my grandchildren or my great-grandchildren will see this memorial," Maile said, "and in the stone they'll see a little piece of me."

When the last block left the factory late last year, Maile said he felt like retiring.

"We'll never work on something like this again. It's part of history," he said. "And we were all giving 100 percent and a little bit more. When the last piece went out, it was a

letdown in some ways. We did nothing else for years."

Construction on the memorial site began in October 1994. It took 210 flatbed truck trips to transport the 4,000 wall stones and 27,239 paving stones from Cold Spring to Washington, the last arriving late last year.

The peninsula on which the memorial sits was formed from mud dredged from the Tidal Basin in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Tests indicated it could not support the 4,500-ton memorial, so about 900 steel pilings were driven down 100 feet to the solid ground under the settled mud. Concrete beams were then built over the pilings.

"It's like it is built on a bridge," Halprin said.

The four sections of the wall were built one by one over the last 30 months, with cranes hoisting the granite stones into position so they could be hooked to the concrete wall behind. The William V. Walsh Construction Co. of Rockville with the primary contractor on site.

Halprin and the workers at Cold Spring had built mock-ups of the wall in Minnesota to see how corners, buttresses and ground connections could best be assembled when the stone reached Washington. Those mock-ups also gave Benson, the inscription designer and carver, an opportunity for some trial runs on the heavily pillowed granite.

He chose a form of Roman inscription that was refined in his studio in Newport, R.I., but the actual carving was done on the erected memorial. Benson traced the letters, some 16 inches tall, onto the granite with water-based paint. Once he saw how the rough surface distorted the appearance of the letters, he repainted them before carving the quotations, using a chisel driven by a pneumatic hammer.

Benson, whose stone-carving business is the oldest in the country, dating to 1705, said he cut at a rate of about two letters a day. "You don't make mistakes," he said. "You can't make a mistake. The wall was up."

The stonecutters from Cold Spring also worked on site in the last four months, making last-minute cuts at Halprin's direction.

"That was awful scary," Leither said. "Mess up and the whole wall has to come down."

On one of the last pieces the cutters worked on—a bench—Maile gave the 16-pound hammer to Halprin so he could pitch away a piece of stone.

"I couldn't let it pass without him taking one swing," Maile said.

Halprin kept the piece of stone as a souvenir.

Leither and Maile, along with 30 other people from Cold Spring, will be at the dedication today.

"When we said those stones, all finished, it'll be almost like a family reunion," Leither said. "We gave birth to them out in Millbank, nurtured them in Cold Spring and sent them off like grown children to Washington, D.C."

Mr. DASCHLE. 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.

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

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

JACK SWIGERT STATUE PLACEMENT IN NATIONAL STATUARY HALL

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 25, which was received from the House.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) providing for acceptance of a statue of Jack Swigert, presented by the State of Colorado, for placement in National Statuary Hall.

The Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I am proud to announce on behalf of the State of Colorado that today the Senate will have the opportunity to approve House Resolution 25 to allow the placement of the statue of Jack Swigert in National Statuary Hall.

Coloradans chose astronaut Jack Swigert as the second State statue to be placed in the U.S. Capitol. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1982 representing the Sixth Congressional District. Unfortunately, his successful campaign was beset by his battle with bone-marrow cancer. The cancer spread quickly but he insisted on traveling from Colorado to Washington despite his failing health. The Representative-elect died only days before the swearing in ceremony.

Mr. Swigert is well known as one of the astronauts on the famous *Apollo 13* mission. The details of the mission are familiar to many; the suspenseful story of the astronauts' journey was recently depicted in a major movie. The ship and crew of *Apollo* suffered several complications and disasters, including an oxygen tank explosion that threatened the lives of the crew. It was the relentless determination and competence demonstrated by Jack Swigert and the other crew members that made it possible for the return of the spacecraft to Earth.

Jack Swigert was born in Denver. He began flying while he was in high school and dedicated himself to becoming a pilot. After graduating from the University of Colorado at Boulder he joined the Air Force and served as a pilot during the Korean war. His strong desire to become an astronaut inspired him to return to school after twice being rejected by NASA's space program. He was admitted to the program at NASA on his third try.

The statue of Jack Swigert will join the statue commemorating Colorado native Dr. Florence Rena Sabin. Dr. Sabin broke many barriers for women in the field of medicine. She entered medical school in 1893 and pursued a career in medical teaching and research. At a time when women were not considered eligible for the medical teaching profession, she became the first woman to attain the position of full professor at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. She also was the first woman to be invited to join the Rockefeller Institute.

Upon returning to Colorado, Dr. Sabin was appointed to a sub-

committee on public health and helped to draft legislation reorganizing the State health department. At the age of 76, Dr. Sabin took on the duties of manager of the Department of Health and Welfare of Denver and continued to implement public health legislation.

The passage of House Concurrent Resolution 25 will mark the triumphant end to a 10-year effort to honor Mr. Swigert. The striking statue, which was cast by the Lundeen brothers in my hometown of Loveland, CO, will be provided entirely by private funding.

Jack Swigert's close friends remember him for his humbling tenacity and courage. I remain in awe of his achievements and spirit, and I am pleased that this statue will join Dr. Sabin in representing the State of Colorado to everyone who visits the Capitol.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I join my colleague from Colorado, Senator WAYNE ALLARD, in supporting adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 25, which authorizes the placement of the statue of Jack Swigert in Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol. This important resolution was submitted by our colleague, Congressman DAN SCHAEFER, in the House of Representatives, who is the dean of our delegation.

The inclusion of this statue would not be possible without the efforts of many Coloradans, who I would like to thank for their dedicated efforts. Among these groups, the Arapahoe County Republican Men's Club stands out for its large contribution. Club members lobbied the state legislature and donated substantial amounts of money in an effort to commission the statue.

Also a key supporter of this effort was Veterans of Foreign Wars Chapter 11229. This chapter was commissioned solely for the purpose of persuading the state legislature to create the statue of Mr. Swigert and put the initiative on the ballot. Mr. Swigert was a lifelong member of VFW Post #1, which is the oldest VFW in the nation, founded after the Spanish-American War.

Among the many individuals who worked on this honor, Mr. Hal Schroyer, who lives north of Denver, should be mentioned for 10 years of work on this project.

Mr. Swigert was an extraordinary individual, even before his flight in the *Apollo 13* spacecraft, made famous by the movie in 1996 that my colleague mentioned.

Jack learned to fly at age 16, while attending Denver East High School, and was on the move ever since. Jack served in the Air Force in Korea, where he flew jet fighters. Even after his plane crashed into a radar unit on a Korean airstrip, Jack continued to fly. After leaving the service, he was a test pilot to 10 years. He kept busy, earning two master's degrees as a followup to his 1953 mechanical engineering degree.