

continues to benefit West Virginians today.

Mr. President, today marks the 60th birthday of my colleague, Senator JAY ROCKEFELLER, and I take this opportunity to recognize this milestone for my friend and ally, an outstanding Senator, and a distinguished West Virginian.

You can, perhaps, imagine the eyebrows that were raised initially by West Virginians, or some of them, when the young, energetic, wealthy ROCKEFELLER moved from New York to the foothills of their State.

He took a lot of ribbing early on—and I can tell you that it was not all good natured. Many did not see the match as one of perfect bliss. At best it might have been described as the near equivalent of a James Carville-Mary Matalin union. But JAY ROCKEFELLER endured with determination.

After serving a 2-year term in the West Virginia House of Delegates, ROCKEFELLER served 4 years as Secretary of State. Then, after a 3-year sabbatical from politics during which he served as the President of West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, he ran for and won the West Virginia Governor's seat—not the kind of comfortable, overstuffed chair one might expect a Rockefeller to occupy in West Virginia.

Some in West Virginia have said that the sure way to end a political career in our State is to become Governor. I have referred to it, from time to time, as a good jumping off place—not a place from which I would particularly like to jump. It may well be our State's most unforgiving job. But JAY ROCKEFELLER weathered the rough shoals of gubernatorial service in West Virginia and, in 1984, went on to win a U.S. Senate seat. That says a lot about his resolve, his vision and his determination.

Since his arrival in the Senate, I have watched JAY emerge as a strong leader focusing on the needs and concerns that affect West Virginia and the Nation. He looks beyond the borders of West Virginia. Through his work to improve the quality of life in West Virginia, JAY has also won over many of those who were at first skeptical at the idea of a Rockefeller moving into mountaineer country.

JAY won his people over with hard work. He has focused his efforts on aiding veterans and championed health care issues. Like so many others who throughout the years have been cured by the healing waters of West Virginia's mountain springs, JAY ROCKEFELLER has become an enthusiastic salesman for West Virginia, boasting of its admirable, unequaled attributes to any potential convert and even drawing them in from far-flung locations around the globe. The long arms of JAY ROCKEFELLER have reached even across the Pacific to Japan to help draw business interests to the mountains and valleys of Appalachia. He can speak Japanese. He can write Japanese. He has studied the Japanese language.

I am glad that JAY made that life-changing decision to go to Emmons three decades ago. Since that time he has made great strides toward improving the quality of life for my people in my State, which he has proudly made his adopted home, as I have adopted West Virginia, my home, having been born in North Carolina almost 80 years ago. Today, on his 60th birthday, Senator ROCKEFELLER's efforts to encourage development and prosperity all across West Virginia are well known. I salute his efforts. And Erma and I wish JAY and his wife, Sharon, continued success and happiness for many years to come.

A poet whose name I do not recall said it perhaps best, and I shall use the lines of that poet in saying happy birthday to JAY ROCKEFELLER:

Count your garden by the flowers,
Never by the leaves that fall;
Count your days by the sunny hours,
Not remembering clouds at all.
Count your nights by stars, not shadows,
Count your life by smiles, not tears;
And on this beautiful June morning, Jay,
Count your age by friends, not years.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, June 17, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,329,352,124,923.40. (Five trillion, three hundred twenty-nine billion, three hundred fifty-two million, one hundred twenty-four thousand, nine hundred twenty-three dollars and forty cents).

One year ago, June 17, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,137,826,000,000. (Five trillion, one hundred thirty-seven billion, eight hundred twenty-six million).

Five years ago, June 17, 1992, the Federal debt stood at \$3,946,500,000,000. (Three trillion, nine hundred forty-six billion, five hundred million).

Ten years ago, June 17, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,293,495,000,000. (Two trillion, two hundred ninety-three billion, four hundred ninety-five million).

Fifteen years ago, June 17, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,069,969,000,000. (One trillion, sixty-nine billion, nine hundred sixty-nine million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,259,383,124,923.40 (Four trillion, two hundred fifty-nine billion, three hundred eighty-three million, one hundred twenty-four thousand, nine hundred twenty-three dollars and forty cents) during the past 15 years.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR DALE BUMPERS OF ARKANSAS

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, with sadness, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable member of the U.S. Senate, the senior Senator from Arkansas, DALE BUMPERS. Senator BUMPERS has announced his retirement after more than 25 years in public service, including the last 22 years in the U.S. Senate. When DALE BUMPERS leaves the Senate

at the end of next year to return to his family and his beloved Arkansas, I will miss his leadership and his friendship tremendously.

There has rarely been a Senator in this body with the courage of his convictions like DALE BUMPERS. During his time here, he has stood up valiantly for the causes he believes in. He has been an advocate for his home State and has fought against a number of Government projects that he felt were wasteful or inefficient. His object has always been to protect the people of Arkansas and the American taxpayer. We have not always agreed with each other on the merits of every project. But I have always been able to count on Senator BUMPERS' integrity, his honesty, and his good humor.

When Senator BUMPERS retires, I think my colleagues will agree that the back of the Senate Chamber will never be the same. In an institution known for its orators, Senator BUMPERS is among the most accomplished of them. His passion for public debate, and his commitment to justice have been obvious to all Senators when DALE BUMPERS takes the floor of the Senate. He speaks with eloquence and with feeling, whether the issue is protecting our environment or cutting corporate welfare.

Throughout his career in public service, Senator BUMPERS has remained true to his constituents by being a strong advocate for his home State of Arkansas. He knows that a Senator's ultimate responsibility is to the people of his State. As a result of his advocacy and his honesty, Arkansas voters have returned him to Washington three times with landslide re-election victories. I have no doubt that the voters of Arkansas would have made it a fourth re-election landslide if he wished.

Senator BUMPERS' insights into the issues and problems we address in the Senate, and in his Environment and Public Works Committee have made him a valuable and trusted Member of this body. Our leadership, the Senate, and most of all the State of Arkansas have greatly benefited from his service.

I believe that I speak for all of my colleagues when I say that the departure of Senator BUMPERS will leave a void in this institution. As he approaches retirement, I want to thank DALE BUMPERS for his service to his country and congratulate him for his extraordinary career. I wish him excellent health and happiness in retirement, and I will truly miss him.

U.S. FOREIGN OIL CONSUMPTION FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 13

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the American Petroleum Institute reports that for the week ending June 13, the U.S. imported 9,391,000 barrels of oil each day, 989,000 barrels more than the 8,402,000 imported each day during the same week a year ago.

Americans relied on foreign oil for 59.6 percent of their needs last week,

and there are no signs that the upward spiral will abate. Before the Persian Gulf war, the United States obtained approximately 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 9,391,000 barrels a day.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I will have a unanimous-consent request momentarily with regard to calling up Calendar No. 84, S. 924, the Department of Defense authorization bill. We have been in communication with the Democratic leadership and Senators on both sides about our desire to call up this legislation. We do have some concerns on both sides about some provisions that are in or not in it. But I want to withhold on making that request just for one moment.

I had, also, as a second consideration, hoped that we could get up the intelligence authorization bill this afternoon. We are asking the Armed Services Committee to continue to work on that and consider that as something we would like to try to do this week if at all possible. But we are still working to get that cleared.

We will ask consent later on this afternoon to go to S. 923, which would deny veterans benefits to persons convicted of Federal capital offenses. I believe we can get that done this afternoon. Senator SPECTER has been working on that. I understand there are Senators on the other side of the aisle having some input. I believe we can get something worked out on that this afternoon. It is something certainly we should do.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST— S. 924

Mr. LOTT. With that, Mr. President, I do ask unanimous consent that the Senate now turn to the consideration of Calendar No. 84, S. 924, the DOD authorization bill.

Mr. GRAMM addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. LOTT. I regret we have had this objection to proceeding on this very important legislation, the Defense authorization bill.

The Armed Services Committee in the Senate has worked very hard on this legislation. It is urgently needed to this extent: Until we can get the authorization bill through the complete process, it makes it difficult for the defense appropriations subcommittee to do its work. So timing is important.

We would like to get this authorization bill done at the earliest possible opportunity so it can get on into conference and so that the defense appropriators will know what the authorization numbers are. It is important for our country.

It is my understanding that a major issue of contention is still being discussed with respect to the depots and bases that could be affected by it or will be affected by it in Texas, in Oklahoma, in California, in Utah, and Georgia. There are a lot of Senators on both sides of the aisle and on both sides of this issue that are very concerned about how it was handled in the committee.

So I have urged those on both sides of the aisle to work together and see if we cannot come up with something that is acceptable to both sides. It will not be easy. This is not a new issue. We went through this in a way in the base closure rounds.

We had debate and amendments on it last year. So everybody knows the arguments on both sides. I still believe that there is a way that we can come to some compromise language that would allow us to go forward.

The Senators are exercising their right to object to waiving the 2-day rule or calling up the bill to go straight to debate and amendments. But I hope that they will not do this for very long, because we have our work to do.

So I understand there is a meeting that will meet again, perhaps today, this afternoon at 5:30, on this issue. We had a preliminary meeting on it in my office yesterday. I will be glad to work with both sides. I want a resolution to be found. But I am not inclined, as I discussed with the distinguished Senator from Kentucky, the acting minority leader, here—I want Senators to be able to exercise their rights, and I want to be helpful with that, but I also think at some point, if you cannot work out something, if you do not work out something, then we will have to use the rules of the Senate to move this very important legislation forward. But I would like everybody to get an opportunity first to work together, and you know we are losing some time here. Every day that goes by that we do not take it up, it means that it already looks like it could be the week of July 7, 8, before we could actually get this legislation completed. I just wanted to make those points.

I understand Senators on the floor now would like to be heard on this issue. I would like to yield the floor so that they could make their statements.

I yield the floor.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, will the majority leader yield just for a question?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The acting minority leader.

Mr. FORD. Once the statements are made by those who have objected to bringing up the Department of Defense authorization bill, how long will they go, and what kind of schedule would we have? How soon will we get to the so-called veterans bill?

Mr. LOTT. As soon as we can get the agreement worked out. I believe they are working on it right now. We hope by the middle of the afternoon we will have something ready to go on that.

Mr. FORD. Put us in morning business?

Mr. LOTT. We will probably have morning business, but I do know also there are Senators, a number of Senators, who probably want to speak on this issue at hand. Maybe we will let them talk a little bit and they will feel better and we will find a way to move this bill forward.

Mr. FORD. The leader knows and we all know at some point it will.

Mr. LOTT. Right.

Mr. FORD. It is the will that will move it.

Mr. LOTT. Yes.

I yield the floor.

Mrs. HUTCHISON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, my colleague from Connecticut asked if he could take 3 minutes. I am happy to give him 3 minutes.

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

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I thank the Chair. I particularly thank my friend and colleague from Texas for her graciousness, and her graciousness will allow this Senator to find his way to his daughter's school to watch the moving-up ceremony. I appreciate my good friend, the Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I am very pleased to hear that the daughter of the Senator from Connecticut is having her moving-up ceremony, because she is a special friend of mine and I think she is a potential future Senator from Connecticut. So I am glad that he is going to be able to make that important ceremony. He will give her my regards, I hope.

THE CITY OF JERUSALEM

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, yesterday we passed the State Department Authorization Act by a vote of 90 to 5. Today there is comment on the bill that we passed yesterday in the Washington Post regarding particularly the sections of that legislation that deal