

States and China, President Jiang's 1997 visit to Washington and President Clinton's return visit to Beijing in 1998—the first such meetings between the United States and China in nearly a decade. I cannot imagine even the most seasoned of career diplomats performing more ably as United States Ambassador than Jim Sasser has over the last three and one half years.

I kept in touch with Jim during his tenure as ambassador. He was always enthusiastic and fully engaged in working to ensure that United States policies with respect to China served our national security, foreign policy and economic interests.

I have already mentioned to some of my colleagues, that I was actually talking to Jim one evening at the very moment that the U.S. Embassy was under siege by crowds of Chinese students pelting the building with rocks in retaliation for the accidental bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade. It showed great courage for him to remain in the embassy with his staff rather than be evacuated as some had recommended. And through it all Jim never lost his sense of humor.

Although relations between Washington and Beijing have deteriorated in recent months, Jim was able to maintain open lines of communication with the Chinese government at the highest levels. He accomplished this difficult task by the strength of his intellect and personality.

Having had the pleasure of serving with Jim Sasser in the United States

Senate it came as no surprise to me that Jim has been an outstanding diplomat. Jim brought to the job of U.S. Ambassador the same vision that he brought to the U.S. Senate while he served in this Chamber.

I remember vividly serving with Jim on the Budget Committee—at the time I was a very junior member of that committee. From 1989 onward, I was able to observe Jim's remarkable, remarkable performance as Chairman of that committee as he built support for sound budget resolutions. Time after time, he marshaled the votes and brought together people of totally different persuasions and opinions—one of the most difficult jobs that any Member of this body has. And he did it successfully, on six different budget resolutions and three reconciliation bills. These victories came under the most difficult circumstances—including during the Republican administration of President George Bush, when he fashioned one of the most difficult budget compromises in modern history.

Jim has served our country ably as a United States Senator and an American diplomat. In fact, there are very few people in public life who come to mind who have made the kinds of contributions to our country that Jim Sasser has over the years.

And through it all, never once has Jim or his family complained about the personal sacrifices that they have made in their years of public service. It therefore seems only appropriate and fitting that I take time today to pub-

licly thank Jim, his wife Mary, and his children Gray and Elizabeth for all that they have done for our country. It is also a personal pleasure to welcome them home to the United States and to Jim's beloved State of Tennessee. I look forward to seeing Jim and Mary very soon and I know our colleagues do as well.

#### CHANGES TO H. CON. RES. 68 PURSUANT TO SECTION 211

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, section 211 of H. Con. Res. 68 (the FY 2000 Budget Resolution) permits the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to make adjustments to specific figures in the budget resolution and on the Senate pay-as-you-go scorecard, provided the CBO estimates an on-budget surplus for FY2000 in its July 1, 1999 update report to Congress.

Pursuant to section 211, I hereby submit the following revisions to H. Con. Res. 68:

(In millions of dollars)

Current Aggregate/Instructions:	
FY 2000 revenue aggregate .....	\$1,408,082
FY 2000 revenue reduction reconciliation instruction .....	0
FY 2000–2004 revenue reduction reconciliation instruction .....	142,315
FY 2000–2009 revenue reduction reconciliation instruction .....	777,868
Adjustments:	
FY 2000 revenue aggregate .....	–14,398
FY 2000 revenue reduction reconciliation instruction .....	14,398
FY 2000–2004 revenue reduction reconciliation instruction .....	14,398
FY 2000–2009 revenue reduction reconciliation instruction .....	14,398
Revised Aggregate/Instruction:	
FY 2000 revenue aggregate .....	1,393,684
FY 2000 revenue reduction reconciliation instruction .....	14,398
FY 2000–2004 revenue reduction reconciliation instruction .....	156,713
FY 2000–2009 revenue reduction reconciliation instruction .....	792,266

(Fiscal years, in millions of dollars)

Senate Pay-As-You-Go Scorecard	Total Deficit Impact						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2000–2004	2005–2009
Current scorecard .....	49	–8,524	–54,950	–33,312	–52,107	–148,844	–729,920
Adjustments .....	–14,398	0	0	0	0	–14,398	0
Revised scorecard .....	–14,349	–8,524	–54,950	–33,312	–52,107	–163,242	–729,920

#### NICARAGUA'S SANDINISTAS ADMIT TO SUBVERTING NEIGHBORS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I have at hand several news reports indicating that Nicaragua's Sandinistas have finally confessed that they supplied weapons in the 1980s to communist guerrillas in El Salvador and, in fact, were themselves dependent on a flood of weapons from the Soviet Union during that period.

An excellent series of articles, written by Glenn Garvin and published in the Miami Herald earlier this month, at long last makes the record clear on that score. I ask unanimous consent that Glenn Carvin's articles be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

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

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, Mr. Garvin conducted a series of interviews with current and former Sandinista officials who are now celebrating the 20th anniversary of their rise to power on July 19, 1979. What they celebrate is a revolution that brought nothing but

poverty and heartache to millions of people.

But in the midst of reciting war stories, they let the truth slip out: these Sandinista officials confirmed that they provided weapons to the Marxist Salvadoran guerrillas. They also acknowledged that the Soviet Union agreed to supply Nicaragua with high-performance MiG fighters, along with other military assistance.

This is not news, but what is, indeed, news is that, for once, two Sandinistas told the truth. back in the 1980s, when President Ronald Reagan and good many Senators accused the Sandinistas of fomenting revolution in neighboring countries, they and their left-wing media apologists in the United States questioned our facts. When the Reagan Administration warned the Soviets not to provide MiGs to Nicaragua, the other side falsely accused President Reagan of hysteria.

Now come Sandinista leaders—co-founder Tomas Borge and former president Daniel Ortega—admitting their role in a plot to escalate the crisis in Central America. Mr. President, neither of the two is famous for telling

the truth, but in this case, I think they stumbled upon it, letting the cat out of the bag.

#### EXHIBIT 1

[From the Miami Herald]

WE SHIPPED WEAPONS, SANDINISTAS SAY

(By Glenn Garvin)

MANAGUA.—When Ronald Reagan and Sandinista leaders slugged it out during the 1980s over events in Nicaragua, Reagan was right more often than they liked to admit, the Sandinistas now say.

In a series of interviews with The Herald, several past and present Sandinista officials confirmed that they shipped weapons to Marxist guerrillas in neighboring El Salvador, a statement they once hotly denied.

The Sandinistas also said that the Soviet Union agreed to supply them with MiG jet fighters and even arranged for Nicaraguan pilots to be trained on the planes in Bulgaria, but the Soviets reneged on the deal, sending the Sandinistas scurrying to make peace with the contras.

#### DOMINO THEORY

"The Sandinista leadership thought they could be Che Guevaras of all Latin America, from Mexico to Antarctica," former Sandinista leader Moises Hassan told the Herald. "the domino theory wasn't so crazy."

During their explosive battles with Congress over U.S. aid to anti-Sandinista rebels

in Nicaragua, Reagan administration officials frequently justified helping the rebels on the grounds that the Sandinistas were shipping arms to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

Reagan's deputies also accused the Sandinistas of planning to acquire the MiGs, a move that they warned that the United States "would view with the utmost concern." In 1984, when American officials spotted large crates being unloaded from Soviet ships in Nicaraguan ports, there was widespread fear that the two countries would go to war. But the crates turned out to contain helicopters, and tensions eased.

Sandinista leaders had denied supplying the Salvadoran guerrillas. "We are not responsible for what is happening El Salvador," said Sandinista party cofounder Tomas Borge said in 1980.

Earlier this month, Borge and former president Daniel Ortega both said the denials were false. They said the Sandinistas had shipped arms to Salvadoran guerrillas because the Salvadorans helped them in their successful insurrection against Anastasio Somoza, and also because they thought it would be more difficult for the United States to attack two revolutionary regimes instead of one.

#### A MATTER OF ETHICS'

"We wanted to broaden the territory of the revolution, to make it wider, so it would be harder for the Americans to come after us," Borge said. Ortega added that it was "a matter of ethics" to arm the Salvadorans.

Neither man offered details on how many weapons were supplied. But Hassan a former Sandinista official who was a member of the revolutionary junta that governed Nicaragua in the early 1980s, said he believed about 50,000 weapons and a corresponding amount of ammunition were sent to El Salvador just in the first 16 months of the Sandinista government.

"Ortega and Borge didn't tell me about it, because they thought I was unreliable, but other people who just assumed I knew would casually bring it up," Hassan said.

Hassan resigned from the Sandinista party in June 1985 but continued to work closely with his old colleagues as mayor of Managua until late 1988.

He also confirmed that the Sandinistas had a commitment for MiGs from the Soviet Union.

He said he learned of the plan for the MiGs during 1982, when he was minister of construction and Sandinistas began building a base for the jet fighters at Punta Huete, a remote site on the east side of Lake Managua.

The site included a 10,000-foot concrete runway—the longest in Central America—capable of handling any military aircraft in the Soviet fleet.

#### CODE NAME: PANCHITO

"It was top secret—we even had a code name, Panchito, so we could talk about it without the CIA hearing," Hassan said. "But somehow the Americans found out."

Alejandro Bendeña, who was secretary general of foreign affairs during the Sandinista government, said Nicaraguan pilots trained to fly the MiGs in Bulgaria. But in 1987, soon after the Punta Huete site was finished, the Soviets backed out, he said.

The news that they weren't getting a weapon they had always considered security blanket, coupled with Soviet advice that it was "time to achieve a regional settlement of security problems," made the Sandinistas realize that they could not longer depend on the USSR for help, Bendeña said.

Quickly, the Sandinistas signed onto a regional peace plan sponsored by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, which required peace talks with the U.S.-backed contra army, Bendeña said. Those talks led eventually to

an agreement for internationally supervised elections that resulted in a Sandinista defeat in 1990.

"It wasn't the intellectual brilliance of Oscar Arias that did it," Bendeña said. "It was us grabbing frantically onto any framework that was there, trying to cut our losses."

#### HOSTILITY TO THE U.S. A COSTLY MISTAKE

20 YEARS AFTER THE REVOLUTION, NICARAGUANS WONDER HOW IT ALL COULD HAVE GONE SO WRONG

(by Glenn Garvin)

MANAGUA.—It was hard to say which was shining more brightly, Moises Hassan thought, as his makeshift military caravan rolled down the highway: the sun in the sky, or the faces of the people crowded along the road, shrieking "Viva!" to his troops.

It was the morning of July 19th, 1979, and Nicaragua had just awakened to find itself abruptly, stunningly free of a dictatorship that, for more than 40 years, had passed the country around from generation to generation like a family cow.

Hassan, as a senior official in the Sandinista National Liberation Front, the guerrilla movement that had spearheaded the rebellion against the dictatorship, had played a key role in ousting it. But now, as he waived to the crowds lining the highway, he realized that it was what came next that would really count.

"You could see the happiness in the people's faces," he recalled. "And you could see the hope, too. And I told myself, damn, we've taken a lot of responsibility on ourselves . . . We cannot let these people down."

Twenty years later, neither Hassan nor any other Sandinista leader denies that the revolution they did let Nicaraguans down. It would reel headlong into a decade of confrontation with the United States, a catastrophic economy where peasants literally preferred toilet paper to the national currency, and a civil war that would take 25,000 lives and send perilously close to a million others into exile.

It would end 11 years later in an ignominious electoral defeat from which the Sandinistas still haven't recovered, and some say, never will. And it is still a source of wonder to them how everything could have gone so disastrously wrong.

"We believed—it was one of our many errors—that we were going to hold power until the end of the centuries," mused Tomas Borge, who helped found the Sandinista Front in 1961. "It didn't work out that way."

Just as the Sandinista victory in 1979 echoed around the world, ushering in a new chapter of the Cold War, its collapse sent a tidal wave washing through the international left.

Leftist theoreticians who could no longer defend the bureaucracy in the Soviet Union or Fidel Castro's erratic military adventures abroad pinned their hopes on the Baby Boomer regime in Nicaragua. They were devastated when it fared no better than the graying revolutions in Cuba and the USSR.

"It's like saying we had a project to make the world over the greater justice and greater fairness, and we failed," said Margaret Randall, an American academic who lived in Nicaragua during the first four years the Sandinistas governed and wrote four adulatory books about them.

"It's been very, very hard for those of us who gave our best years to Nicaragua, our greatest energies to Nicaragua, who had friends who died there . . . It's one thing to say the people are gone, but the project is still there. But now there's nothing. We're still picking up the pieces."

ALL WAS CONFUSION—CHAOS LEFT SANDINISTAS A BLANK SLATE FOR COUNTRY

On that day 20 years ago, it was a little hard to imagine that any government would emerge from the debris left behind when Anastasio Somoza—the last of three family members to rule Nicaragua—slipped away in the middle of the night.

Within hours of Somoza's departure, the entire senior officer corps of the National Guard, the army on which the dictatorship was built, bolted for the border. On the morning of July 19, Managua's streets were littered with cast-off uniforms of panicky junior officers and enlisted men who were making their own getaways in civilian clothes.

Chaos was everywhere. Children lurched about the parking lot of the Inter-Continental Hotel, spraying the air with bullets from automatic rifles left behind by the soldiers. Inside the hotel, the last of the foreign mercenaries Somoza employed as bodyguards was going room to room, robbing reporters (including one from The Miami Herald) at gunpoint.

At the airport, clogged with government officials and Somoza cronies trying to catch the last plane out, an armed band of teenage Sandinista sympathizers climbed into the tower to try to arrest the air traffic controllers, who were still wearing their National Guard uniforms. Only the intervention of a Red Cross official prevented a complete disaster.

Elsewhere in the city, those who couldn't or wouldn't leave were nervously preparing peace offerings to the revolutionary army that was headed for Managua. One elderly couple spray-painted FSLN—the Spanish initials by which the Sandinistas were known—across the sides of their new Mercedes Benz.

But as Sandinista forces poured into the city over the next few days, the situation quickly stabilized. And as FSLN leaders admit, the anarchy they found actually offered them a marvelous opportunity to start a country from scratch.

"The state dissolved completely," said novelist Giaconda Belli, who delivered the first newscast over Sandinista television. "No army, no judges, no congress, no nothing. . . . It was like a clean slate for us."

What the Sandinistas had promised—to the Organization of American States and the U.S. Government, as they tried to mediate the war against Somoza—was a pluralist, non-aligned democracy with a mixed economy. Many Sandinistas still say that was what they tried to build.

"We were not trying to put a communist government in Managua," Belli insisted. "We were very critical of the Soviet model and the Cuban model. We never closed our borders, we never prohibited organized religion."

But though there were many members of the FSLN who rejected communist dogma, the nine men who composed the Sandinista directorate—the central committee—were committed Marxist-Leninists.

"All the top leadership was Marxist-Leninist," agreed Hassan, who wasn't. "And I knew that if they had their way, Nicaragua would be a Marxist state. But I wasn't too worried about it. I didn't think they would be able to brush aside the rest of us."

Hassan was part of the five-member junta—which included two non-Sandinista members—that was theoretically governing Nicaragua until free elections could be held. But, he soon realized, all the important decisions were being made by the party leadership. The junta was little more than a rubber stamp.

"I remember when the Russians invaded Afghanistan late in 1979, the junta had to

meet to decide what position we were going to take at the United Nations," Hassen said. "We decided we would condemn it. But when [Foreign Minister Miguel] D'Escoto went up to New York, he abstained when it was time to vote. The Sandinista directorate told him what to do, and he obeyed them, not us."

In fact, there was an increasing confusion between the identity of the country and the party. The police became the Sandinista National Police, the army the Sandinista People's Army. Schoolchildren pledged allegiance not only to Nicaragua but to the Sandinista party, and promised it their "love, loyalty and sacrifice."

Meanwhile, the failure to condemn the Soviet invasion was symptomatic of the revolution's leftward march. The government quickly moved to seize anything that was "mismanaged" or "underexploited." Farmers were ordered to sell grain only to a state purchasing agency and cattle only to state slaughterhouses.

Newsman who criticized government policies lost their papers or radio programs, and sometimes were jailed. Kids learned math from schoolbooks that taught two grenades plus two grenades plus two grenades equals six grenades, and their alphabet from sentences like this one that illustrated the use of the letter Q: "Sandino fought the yanquis. The yanquis will always be defeated in our fatherland."

It was the profound Sandinista hostility to the United States—the party anthem even referred to the U.S. as "the enemy of humanity"—that led to what some party leaders now consider its most ruinous mistake: supporting Marxist guerrillas in nearby El Salvador against the American-backed government.

First Jimmy Carter and then Ronald Reagan warned the Sandinistas to stay out of the Salvadoran conflict. When they didn't, the United States first suspended aid to Nicaragua, and later began supporting the counterrevolutionary forces that came to be known as the contras in a civil war that ultimately cost the Sandinistas power.

"It was just political machismo," Belli said. "Everybody was young, wearing uniforms, and they thought they were cut. They wanted to be heroic, and going up against the United States was heroic. . . . But it was the wrong thing to do, and the Nicaraguan people paid a high price."

Several Sandinista leaders say the party missed a golden opportunity when Thomas Enders, an assistant U.S. secretary of state, came to Managua in 1981 with a final carrot-and-stick offer from the Reagan administration: Quit fooling around in El Salvador, and we'll leave you alone, no matter what you do inside Nicaragua. Keep it up, and we'll swat you like a fly.

"It was a great opportunity for a deal," said Arturo Cruz Jr., who was a key official in Nicaragua's foreign ministry at the time. "I think it was a sincere offer. Ronald Reagan considered Nicaragua a lost cause. Their concern was El Salvador." Sergio Ramirez, a member of the junta and later vice president, agreed: "I thought it was an opportunity, and I said so, but no one agreed with me."

Even with the benefit of hindsight, some Sandinistas say it was unthinkable to back away from the Salvadoran guerrillas.

"That was a matter of ethics on our part," said former President Daniel Ortega. "The Salvadorans had helped us [against Somoza]. And thanks to the armed struggle, El Salvador has changed. It's a much different place than it was then. . . . The war in El Salvador has led to a political advance, and we are part of that achievement."

The United States wouldn't have kept its promise anyway, said Borge. "Look, I don't

think Cuba was ever a threat to the United States, but let's say it was at one time," he explained. "Well, with the fall of the Soviet Union, it obviously isn't a threat anymore. But the U.S. agitation against Cuba and attempts to isolate it continue. The U.S. doesn't like revolutionaries, and we were revolutionaries."

But is some Sandinistas had doubts about the carrot in Enders' offer, they know he was serious about the stick. Three months after the Sandinistas rejected the deal, the Reagan administration was funneling money to the contras. Four months after that, in March 1982, the contras blew up two major bridges in northern Nicaragua, and the war was on in earnest.

The war led directly to some of the Sandinistas' most unpopular policies, like the military draft, and broadened others, like moving peasants off their land into cooperatives. Censorship expanded until the daily paper *La Presena*, the last voice of the opposition, was shut down completely.

What had been skirmishes between the Sandinistas and the Roman Catholic Church erupted into full-fledged firefights, climaxing when FSLN militants shouted down Pope John Paul II as he tried to say Mass.

It accelerated the decline already begun by their economic policies. By 1988, inflation was 33,000 percent annually, and it took a shopping bag full of cordobas just to buy lunch—that is if you could find lunch.

Practically everything was in short supply: No hay, there isn't any, because about the only Spanish phrase a visitor of Nicaragua needed. The vast shelves of the supermarkets built in the days of Somoza were empty except for Bulgarian-made dishwasher soap, useless in a country with no dishwashers.

When the Sandinistas managed to obtain food from their socialist trading partners, people were suspicious. A bumper crop of Russian potatoes in 1987 led to the widespread certainty that they were contaminated with radiation from the breakdown of the Soviet nuclear reactor at Chernobyl.

Some of the problems, Sandinista leaders insist even now, weren't their fault.

"The conflict with the church was strong, and it cost us, but I don't think it was our fault," Ortega said. "There was so many people being wounded every day, so many people dying, and it was hard for us to understand the position of the church hierarchy" in refusing to condemn the contras.

Others, they acknowledge, were in large part their responsibility. "When we arrived, we had almost total power," Borge said. "And we didn't know how to handle total power. What came hand in hand with total power was the mistaken belief that we were never mistaken. This made us behave in an arbitrary way. And the most grave and arbitrary abuses were made in the countryside, where the peasants began to join the contras."

Sandinista leaders agree that the contras would never have grown into such a huge and destructive force—some 22,000 by the war's end—if the U.S. hadn't been arming and supplying them. But most of them also admit that the revolution made the war possible by alienating hundreds of thousands of peasants.

"During the 1984 election, we had a rally down in the southern part of the country, and they had this peasant—a contra who had surrendered—make a symbolic presentation of a rifle to me," Ramirez recalled. "We always talked about the contras as American mercenaries, but this guy standing across from me was not some big gringo Ranger. He was a simple peasant."

"Before that, my understanding of the counterrevolution had been intellectual. But here, right before me, was the face of the

country. This poor man. . . . He thought we were going to take away his children, interfere in his family, butt into his religion, make him work in a collective."

"And this was the man that the revolution was supposed to be for! You know, the revolution was headed by intellectuals. We did it in the name of the workers and peasants, but were all intellectuals. And in the end, most of the peasants were against us."

END OF GAME—SANDINISTAS STUNNED BY SCOPE OF ELECTION LOSS

The war eventually forced the Sandinistas to agree to internationally supervised elections. They lost—to Violeta Chamorro, publisher of *La Prensa*, one of their most important allies during the war against Somoza—in a landslide that stunned them.

"We had a naive syllogism: If it was a revolution for the poor, then the poor couldn't be against us," Ramirez said. "But we should have known much earlier. We started out with 90 percent of the population behind us. By 1985, there were 400,000 Nicaraguans who had fled to Miami, several hundred thousand more in Costa Rica and Honduras, and we still only got 60 percent of the vote. The Nicaraguan family was split."

Since the 1990 election, the Sandinistas have lost three more elections (one presidential, two for local offices across the country) by nearly identical margins. The party newspaper is closed, the party television station under the control of Mexican investors. Two major scandals—one over the way Sandinista leaders looted the government on their way out of office in 1990, another over allegations that Daniel Ortega molested his stepdaughter for nine years, beginning when she was 11—have been sandwiched around countless minor ones.

Those who govern now say the Sandinistas left nothing behind but wreckage. Nicaraguan Vice President Enrique Bolaños, a lifelong opponent of the FSLN whose farm was confiscated during the revolution, says it will take decades to undo the damage the Sandinistas did to the Nicaraguan economy.

"Per capital income dropped to the levels of 1942 when they were in charge," he said. "The trade deficit, which had always hovered around zero, went up to \$400 million to \$600 million their first year, and its stayed there ever since. Even if we get the foreign debt they left us under control—it went from \$1.3 billion to \$12 billion under them—that trade deficit will kill us."

Many of the party's most loyal militants—including Ramirez, Belli, Hassan and Cruz—have deserted it. Some are harshly critical of what the revolution left behind. Hassan, who has left politics and now manages a garment factory, said that what he saw during the revolution has soured him on the political left.

"I think the left equal populism, which equals give-me-give-me-give-me," he said. "What we bred here are people who say, 'I'll go to demonstrations and shout, but I won't work. I want a salary, but I won't work. I want food, but I won't work. I want a house, but I won't work.'"

But others believe that the revolution left some things of lasting value, including a sense that even poor people have inalienable rights.

"Nicaraguan peasant will look you straight in the eye," said Alejandro Bendaña, once Daniel Ortega's top foreign policy adviser, now estranged from the party. "That wasn't always true. When I was a kid, they walked up to you, bowing, humble and deferential, saying boss this and boss that. That is a legacy of the revolution."

Bendaña, like many past and present Sandinistas, believes that the revolution would have been worthwhile even if it never accomplished anything but getting rid of the Somozas.

"Our parents had failed to get rid of the bastard, and we were the ones who did it," he said. "And to get rid of the dictatorship, armed force was required. Banging pots and pans in the streets, like in the Philippines, that wasn't going to do it."

Ortega, somewhat paradoxically, believes that the election that ousted him proves that the Sandinistas moved the country forward.

"When we lost the election, we gave up the government," Ortega said. "That hadn't happened before. What we have here is a typical bourgeois democracy—not a true people's democracy—but I still think it represents an advance for Nicaragua."

But being remembered as a transitional asterisk in Nicaraguan history was not what the Sandinistas dreamed of in 1979, when they boasted that they would do nothing less than construct a New Man, free of the chains of ego and selfishness.

"I always thought the revolution would be a transcendental story in human development," mused Ramirez earlier this month. "But it wasn't, was it?"

#### 46TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN ARMISTICE

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, on July 27, 1953, the armistice was signed, ending the Korean War. On Sunday, July 25, 1999, nearly forty-six years after the fighting stopped, the Veterans of Foreign Wars gathered for the dedication of a Korean War Memorial in Fultondale, Alabama. I rise today, on the 46th Anniversary of the armistice, to honor the military personnel who faithfully served our nation in this conflict.

Many have wrongfully called Korea "the Forgotten War." I want Korean War veterans to know that we have not forgotten their brave service to our nation. The courage and dedication of American troops who fought on and around the Korean Peninsula should never be forgotten. The names of Pusan, Inchon, Chosin Reservoir and countless other locations where our forces fought against Communist aggression continue to bring pride to the hearts and minds of all Americans.

We are constantly and correctly reminded of the thousands of Americans who lost so much in the Vietnam War. Vietnam left such a lasting impression on our history that there has been a temptation to overlook our nation's first stand against the Communist threat in Asia. I am committed to insuring that we do not succumb to this temptation. We must not forget either the 37,000 Americans who gave their lives in Korea, or the 8,000 MIAs whose fate remains a mystery.

Those who served their nation from 1950–53 suffered much, but have left a proud legacy. The 8th Army, Far East Air Force, 1st Marine Division, and 7th Fleet proved their mettle in Korea and remain among the proudest names in American military history. The peace and prosperity which the people of South Korea enjoy today is the direct result of the gallantry of our Armed Forces. The 38,000 American personnel who currently serve in South Korea are guardians of the liberty which their

predecessors fought to establish nearly half a century ago.

Mr. President, I ask you and my fellow United States Senators to join me in recognizing the members of the Armed Services who sacrificed so much in defense of freedom and democracy on the Korean Peninsula.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, July 26, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,636,525,745,471.93 (Five trillion, six hundred thirty-six billion, five hundred twenty-five million, seven hundred forty-five thousand, four hundred seventy-one dollars and ninety-three cents).

Five years ago, July 26, 1994, the Federal debt stood at \$4,632,297,000,000 (Four trillion, six hundred thirty-two billion, two hundred ninety-seven million).

Ten years ago, July 26, 1989, the Federal debt stood at \$2,802,473,000,000 (Two trillion, eight hundred two billion, four hundred seventy-three million).

Fifteen years ago, July 26, 1984, the Federal debt stood at \$1,536,607,000,000 (One trillion, five hundred thirty-six billion, six hundred seven million).

Twenty-five years ago, July 26, 1974, the Federal debt stood at \$475,807,000,000 (Four hundred seventy-five billion, eight hundred seven million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,160,718,745,471.93 (Five trillion, one hundred sixty billion, seven hundred eighteen million, seven hundred forty-five thousand, four hundred seventy-one dollars and ninety-three cents) during the past 25 years.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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 appropriate committees.

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

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:46 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Berry, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2561. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2415. An act to enhance security of United States missions and personnel overseas, to authorize appropriations for the De-

partment of State for fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 604. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to complete a land exchange with Georgia Power Company.

S. 1258. An act to authorize funds for the payment of salaries and expenses of the Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes.

S. 1259. An act to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 relating to dilution of famous marks, and for other purposes.

S. 1260. An act to make technical corrections in title 17, United States Code, and other laws.

The message further announced that the House insists upon its amendments to the bill (S. 507) to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as managers of the conference on the part of the House:

For consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. BAKER, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. SHERWOOD, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. BORSKI, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. BAIRD.

At 2:06 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Berry, one of its reading clerks announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 457. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the amount of leave time available to a Federal employee in any year in connection with serving as an organ donor, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1074. An act to provide Government-wide accounting of regulatory costs and benefits, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2565. An act to clarify the quorum requirement for the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 457. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the amount of leave time available to a Federal employee in any year in connection with serving as an organ donor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1074. An act to provide Government-wide accounting of regulatory costs and benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2565. An act to clarify the quorum requirement for the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with