

that responsibility was viewed by the other Members of this Chamber. This week I asked once again to have the chance to preside because I wanted to never forget just exactly how meaningful it is to serve in this Chamber.

I remember passing our first bill with regard to sentencing and seeing it signed into law. I remember standing at this desk and casting the very first vote on the impeachment trial that we had in January of 1999 with respect to the impeachment of President Clinton, an unbelievably historic moment to have been a part. And of course I will never forget today, the chance to be here with colleagues and staff and friends speaking one last time in the Senate. Indeed, it is these moments, the chance to stand up and to make one's case for one's State, for one's beliefs, that will stay with me probably more than any other.

In closing, I will just make a few short observations. First, this institution has been served by great people. All too often we tend to take for granted the truly extraordinary political leaders who work here every day. I personally consider it a great honor and privilege to serve with people who will long be recognized, probably for the entire history of our country, as giants in this Chamber—leaders such as Senator Bob Dole, our President pro tempore STROM THURMOND, retiring Member DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, and of course the great Senator from West Virginia ROBERT BYRD—two on each side of the aisle whose contributions to their Nation and to this Chamber will never be forgotten, and two on each side of the aisle whose leadership I hope all of us will be able to in some ways emulate in our careers. I know there will be others who are serving here and with whom I have served who someday will be looked upon the same way, as history records their accomplishments.

The second observation I have is for those sitting in the gallery, watching and paying attention to the action of the Senate. Sometimes the media and others tend to focus too much on the areas in which we disagree in this Chamber. Indeed, we do have our disagreements. That is why we have a democratic system that gives each side an opportunity to fight for their causes.

But as the Presiding Officer knows, in the committees and usually on the floor of this Chamber, we work together on a bipartisan basis to get things done for the American people. More often than not, things pass here unanimously. They do so quietly. They do so by the unanimous-consent agreements that don't get reported very often. Indeed, much of America's business is accomplished without rancor and strife, without divisive debates. At the same time, the Founding Fathers created the Senate as the saucer to cool the passions of the day.

I have observed that passion for philosophy, at least for ideas, reigns here

in the Senate. I can remember during the last 6 years from the balanced budget amendment debates, when I first got here, to the debates over Bosnia and other foreign affairs issues, to the impeachment trial and so on, while we in the Senate obviously have a reputation for being a deliberative body, we also are a body in which the passions of the country are best reflected in the debates we have. I hope that will always be the tradition as well.

Indeed, I think the Senate really does reflect democracy at its finest. Over 150 years ago, De Tocqueville observed:

I confess that in America I saw more than America; I saw the image of democracy itself, with its inclinations, its character, its prejudices, and its passions, in order to learn what we have to fear or hope from its progress.

Some say this America, this image of democracy, no longer exists. But I say that it does exist, right here in this great Chamber.

I will miss the Senate. I will miss the institution, and I will miss the people. Being a Senator has been my dream job. I hope that during my 6 years here I have contributed in some small way to the rich history of what has been and forever will be called "the world's greatest deliberative body in the world's greatest democracy." It is a long distance from being the grandson of immigrants to this floor.

I know when my grandparents came here, they never dreamt that their grandson or anyone in the family would end up as a Member of the U.S. Senate, but they came to America because they wanted to live in a place in which something such as that could happen. This is the one country where something such as that not only can happen in the family of the Abrahams, but in many other families happened all the time. It is the greatest thing about America. I am proud and believe, as I leave the Chamber, that I have helped contribute in my own small way during these 6 years to making sure that America always remains that country.

I thank everyone I have mentioned, but I especially thank my family, some of whom are here today, my wife Jane and my daughters Betsy and Julie, without whom none of this would have been possible for me. Their support in every way and their love and affection have made the difference in my life.

As I leave the Senate, I will only say that I hope all Americans will in their own way find a way to appreciate the greatness of this democracy. I hope all of my colleagues will continue to fight to make sure that that tradition, that Nation which my grandparents and so many others fought for, so many others strove to come to be part of, will always be available to those who seek freedom and liberty and opportunity and that that dream will be forever part of our great country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise to respond very briefly on behalf of this Senator, and I think I speak for the entire body when I say thank you to Senator SPENCE ABRAHAM from Michigan for his contributions, his leadership, his effectiveness.

My grandfather Hagel used to occasionally pay the highest compliment to an individual when he would say: He is a good man.

Well, SPENCE ABRAHAM is a good man. He will go on to do other very significant things with his life, with his talent, with his leadership. We will all be well served. It will impact the future of his children and our children, just as his service in the Senate has made this a better institution and a stronger Nation.

I have been privileged to serve with SPENCE ABRAHAM, be his seatmate here on the Senate floor, and become a good friend. Of that friendship and that service, I am proud. I thank Senator ABRAHAM.

I yield the floor.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now be in a period of morning business with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ANNIVERSARY OF PEARL HARBOR DAY

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today in remembrance of those who relinquished their lives at the Japanese attack of Pearl Harbor. As President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said at the time, December 7, 1941, will remain "a date which will live in infamy," for it was on this date that the Japanese forces attacked our unsuspecting Nation.

The first Japanese assault struck the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on the island of Oahu, at 7:55 a.m. The base was just awakening early Sunday morning when the sound of Japanese torpedo planes could be heard. The American armed forces in the Pacific were caught completely off guard. When a war warning was issued two weeks prior, Hawaii was not mentioned as a possible target. At the time, American authorities thought that the Philippines or Malaysia would be a possible area of attack, not the island of Hawaii. Therefore, Pearl Harbor was not prepared for the onslaught of

terror that occurred that devastating morning.

The Japanese attack consisted of 363 planes that came in two waves with the second only 45 minutes after the first. The United States had concentrated almost its entire fleet of 94 vessels, including 8 battleships, at Pearl Harbor, and this proximity made an easy target for the Japanese. Additionally, to prevent against saboteurs, the Army's planes at Oahu were alined wing tip to wing tip on airfields. Therefore, the Japanese were able to easily diminish the threat of any American defense. Before noon, when the Japanese attack concluded, 2,403 American servicemen and civilians were killed and an additional 1,178 were wounded.

December 7, 1941, is the day our land, our people, and our spirit were brutally attacked. However, the Japanese forces failed to defeat the patriotism of the American people and our undying belief in our Nation. We were able to rally around one another with the knowledge and the confidence that America would prevail, and the great losses we suffered at Pearl Harbor would not be in vain. As a veteran of World War II, and a proud American, I would like to recognize the patriotism, the bravery, and the extreme sacrifices of those who were at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, including our own Senator DAN INOUE. These fine men and women are true American heroes, and our country forever owes them a great debt of gratitude.

COUNTRY DOCTOR OF THE YEAR

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, today, I rise to pay tribute to the Country Doctor of the Year, Dr. Howard Clark of Morton, MS. Clark was selected for this award out of 501 doctors from 41 States by a national physicians association. At the young age of 73, Dr. Clark sees an average of 60 patients a day, cares for about 20 who are hospitalized and 110 who reside in the local nursing home. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and attended medical school at both the University of Mississippi and Tulane University. Clark was among the first doctors hired when the University of Mississippi Medical Center opened its doors in 1955. He has been in practice in Morton since 1956. I want to commend Dr. Clark not only for his service to the people of Morton and the surrounding areas but also for the service he gave this great Nation. When Howard Clark joined the Armed Forces following graduation from high school, he was stationed in the South Pacific. At the time, there was a dire need for medics and he volunteered. This altruistic act sparked the start of a career that has made life better for those around him. Dr. Clark's selflessness spills over into his personal life as well. He is an active member of the Morton community, serving as the local school doctor at sporting events, missing only one game in 43 years. Dr. Clark, you

are to be admired for your service to the community, the Nation, and for being chosen Country Doctor of the Year. I join your family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating you on this honor.

RETIREMENT OF JOYCE NEWTON

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, at the end of December, one of my charter staff members will be retiring. Joyce Newton has been on my staff since I took office as the Senator from Utah in January 1977.

As a freshman Senator, I was the beneficiary of Joyce's decade of previous experience as a caseworker for former Representatives Frank Horton and John Conlan and as a staffer at the Office of Management and Budget.

But, during these last 24 years, Joyce has helped countless Utahns with Social Security snafus, international adoptions, military transfers, and a whole host of other special needs and problems. Joyce has always been there to offer a sympathetic ear or to jump start a slow or reluctant bureaucracy.

Joyce has been known to come to the office in the wee hours of the morning in order to telephone an embassy halfway around the globe.

She has been known to telephone the same Federal caseworker three times in one day just to make sure a constituent's application was not buried under another pile of work resulting in a needless delay or missed deadline.

She has been known to go to bat for constituents even when the grounds for their congressional appeals were shaky.

And, Joyce has been tenacious. She has pursued cases as far as she could. If we were unsuccessful in resolving a constituent problem, it was never for lack of trying—it was only for lack of more avenues.

I remember the "Books for Bulgaria" project. How could we get literally hundreds of pounds of books to Bulgaria at little or no cost to be used by a nonprofit organization for educational outreach in that distressed country? This was not an easy problem. Joyce somehow managed to solve it.

I remember the young woman from England who needed specialized surgery to cure a rare condition that prevented her from walking. Doctors at the University of Utah had pioneered a new technique not available anywhere else, but various INS rules needed to be sorted out in order for her to come and remain in our country long enough for recovery and rehabilitation. There is a woman able to walk today because Joyce got it done.

I have always had complete confidence in Joyce. When she phoned an agency, she was phoning for me. No Senator or Representative can possibly do this work by himself or herself. It takes dedicated, caring, and competent people to work through the various redtape entanglements that often ensnare our citizens.

These constituent service staffers too often work in the background. They don't attend signing ceremonies. They don't meet with celebrities or national leaders. They don't have bills and photographs, plaques or certificates on their office walls. Joyce Newton was one of these devoted individuals on Capitol Hill who labored quietly on behalf of the citizens of America. And, she got it done.

There are thousands of citizens in my State—seniors, children, service men and women, families, students—who may not remember Joyce Newton's name. But, they will always remember what she did for them.

We are sorely going to miss Joyce Newton on the Hatch staff. And, today I want to thank her publicly for all of her dedicated hard work over these last many years and wish her all the best in a much deserved, well-earned retirement.

BOB LOCKWOOD

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I pay public tribute to Bob Lockwood, who is finally retiring. I say "finally" because he has tried to leave at least twice previously, and I successfully prevailed on him to stay. But, this time, it looks as if he is really going to do it.

Bob came to my staff after a long and distinguished career in the Army, serving in many capacities, including in Vietnam and on the Secretary of Defense staff. Bob has many credentials making him unique among military officers. He is a lawyer, an engineer, and an economist. He found an organization—the U.S. Army—where he could put all of these qualifications to work. So, when he wanted to establish a second career in public policy, I benefited from a man who could wear many hats. It will probably take three people to replace him.

Bob had the complex portfolios of defense and trade as well as business liaison. The amazing thing is that he is expert in all these areas as well as tenacious and unwilling to let any issue slide. There may be a few people at the Pentagon and at USTR who will cheer his retirement if only because Bob will not be around to bug them. On the other hand, I know firsthand that Bob is universally respected for his knowledge, his integrity, and his professionalism. He has big shoes that will be hard to fill.

Over the years, he has helped me to foster business development in Utah, to prepare for the landmark debates we have had on trade, and to protect our great Hill Air Force Base and other military facilities from ill-advised and politically motivated cuts and closures. I will always be grateful for his yeoman effort on these projects. Utah is better off today for his dedication to these major issues.

Bob has also turned into a real Utahan during the years he has worked for me. Traveling to our State often during the year, he fell in love with