

bill will also make the tax credit permanent, adjust the credit for inflation, and increase the income cap for families to be eligible for the tax credit.

I have talked with a number of South Dakotans who have adopted children with special needs, and I discovered that changes needed to also be made to the types of adoption expenses that can be credited. For example, families adopting a special needs child may have to buy a wheelchair or special van for the adopted child with a physical disability. Counseling may also be needed for the family to cope with the extraordinary challenges of a child with special needs. Instead of being limited to the adoption expenses that the Internal Revenue Service decides are allowable, these families would be entitled to the full credit and exclusion under the Hope for Children Act.

South Dakota families will receive tax relief by the end of this year. The amount that each family gets will be the result of a spirited, yet constructive debate that will take place here in Congress. Throughout this discussion, I will continue to emphasize the need to make changes in our tax code that encourage new and growing South Dakota families through adoption.

#### SINKING OF THE F/V "ARCTIC ROSE" OFF THE COAST OF ALASKA

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to make note of the 15 people who have lost their lives in the waters off the coast of Alaska. On Tuesday, April 2 the U.S. Coast Guard received a distress signal from the vessel *Arctic Rose*. The *Arctic Rose* sank with all hands on board in the Bering sea, some 200 miles northwest of St. Paul Island. I would like to join my colleagues from the home states of these people to recognize those whose lives were lost in this tragic event, and would ask that their names be entered into the record.

Aaron Brocker, Jimmy Conrad, Robert Foreman, Edward Haynes, G.W. Kandris, Kenneth Kivlin, Jeff Meinche, and Mike Olney, all from Washington. Kerry Egan from Minnesota. Angel Mendez from Texas. Michael Neureiter from California. Dave Rundall from Hawaii. Shawn Bouchard and James Mills from Montana. I am sure I join with all members of Congress and express our sincerest condolences to the families of these men.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to express my deep condolences to the family and friends of the 15 men who were aboard the *Arctic Rose*, which was lost at sea on April 2, 2001. On March 31, 2001, the trawl vessel left St. Paul Island, AK to fish for flathead sole in the Bering Sea. The boat was supposed to be at sea for about two weeks.

Sometime during the early morning of April 2, however, something happened that caused the *Arctic Rose* to go down. We still don't know why the fish-

ing vessel sank, but we know that 15 men lost their lives in pursuit of their livelihoods. Nine of these men were from Washington state, and all of them leave behind families, friends and co-workers. My thoughts are with the crewmen's loved ones, who are only beginning to cope with this tragedy. I also extend my condolences to the owner of the vessel, Mr. David Olney, to the employees of Arctic Sole Seafood, Inc., and to everyone who is part of this important industry.

Most people are aware that fishing in the seas off Alaska is a dangerous occupation, but it still is a major shock when lives are lost at sea. We must continue our efforts to improve the safety of crews fishing in the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska. One of the ways to improve safety is to allow the creation of individual fishing quotas, which guarantee catch to fishermen. This allows fishermen to wait for better weather before going out to sea. I have consistently supported using quotas as one tool to manage fisheries.

Many of the Alaskan fishing seasons take place during the fall, winter and spring, when the weather is often severe. This business is inherently dangerous. The *Arctic Rose* had survival suits on board, but it seems the ship went down too quickly for most crewmen to even put them on. Nor were they able to get to the life raft. We should continue our efforts to improve the safety of commercial fishing in Alaska, and throughout the country, but I doubt we will ever be able to completely eliminate the hazards.

The loss of the *Arctic Rose* reminds us of the risks commercial fishermen take every day to provide seafood enjoyed by so many people throughout the Northwest and world. Let's not take their work for granted. While we mourn the loss of the *Arctic Rose*, we should also thank the men and women who face these dangers every day to bring food to families across our country.

#### IMPROVED UNITED STATES-INDIA RELATIONS

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to welcome to our nation's capital the Honorable Jaswant Singh, Minister of External Affairs and Defense for the Republic of India. Minister Singh's visit will be an opportunity to reaffirm the warm relations between our countries as a new Administration gets established in Washington. The Minister's visit to Washington will include meetings with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, as well as the National Security Advisor.

Minister Singh's visit comes at a time of major transition in U.S.-India relations. Last month, Washington welcomed the arrival of the new Indian Ambassador to Washington, Mr. Lalit Mansingh. Ambassador Mansingh succeeds Ambassador Naresh Chandra, who was well known and admired by

many in Congress during his tenure. Ambassador Mansingh presented his credentials to Secretary of State Powell on March 23, and the two discussed a wide range of issues concerning the future of U.S.-India relations. Secretary Powell reiterated President Bush's intention to "build on the good work done in the past."

I hope that the message from the new Administration to Mr. Singh will be one of support for building on the progress in U.S.-India relations that we have seen for much of the past decade. After years of being treated as a relatively low priority, the U.S.-India relationship has, since the early 1990s, steadily moved to a higher priority on the American foreign policy agenda.

President Clinton's Administration recognized the importance of India, as a trading partner, as a force for stability in Asia, and as a leader for democracy and prosperity in the developing world. The Clinton Administration also recognized the wonderful resource that the Indian-American community, over a million strong, represents in building closer ties between the world's two largest democracies.

I hope that the Bush Administration will continue this progress. The early signs are that the Administration recognizes the significance of India to the United States. In announcing the nomination of Robert D. Blackwill as his choice to be the next Ambassador to India, President Bush spoke of "the important place India holds in my foreign policy agenda."

I look forward to reviewing Mr. Blackwill's nomination in my role as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. If Mr. Blackwill is confirmed, he would succeed U.S. Ambassador Richard Celeste, the former Governor of Ohio. Ambassador Celeste, who presented his credentials in November 1997, has served during an eventful time in U.S.-India relations. In the past two months, as India recovers from the devastating earthquake that struck the state of Gujarat on January 26, Ambassador Celeste has done an excellent job of helping to coordinate the American aid effort. As he prepares to leave New Delhi, I want to congratulate Ambassador Celeste for a job well done.

In the past year, with President Clinton visiting India in March and Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee visiting the United States in September, the level of friendship and partnership between India and the United States is perhaps the highest it has ever been. During last year's summits between President Clinton and Prime Minister Vajpayee, the United States and India signed a series of agreements to accelerate bilateral cooperation in a wide range of areas. The U.S.-India Vision Statement of March 2000, signed in New Delhi, pledged cooperation on counterterrorism. The two countries also pledged to cooperate on issues of nuclear non-proliferation. That agreement also established the U.S.-India

Financial and Economic Forum, the U.S.-India Commercial Dialogue, and the U.S.-India Working Group on Trade. Minister Singh and then Secretary of State Madeleine Albright signed a joint statement on cooperation in energy and environment in a ceremony at the Taj Mahal in March 2000.

This week, President Clinton has returned to India to visit the State of Gujarat, scene of January's devastating earthquake that left an estimated 18,000 people dead, and thousands of people homeless.

While the trend in relations between the United States and India has been positive, there is still a great deal of work to be done. The visit to Washington by External Affairs and Defense Minister Singh, just a few months into the new Administration, offers an opportunity to build in the work of the past few years, while charting a new course for even closer ties between our two countries.

#### ADDRESSING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN SOUTH DAKOTA AND AROUND THE COUNTRY

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, domestic violence is often the crime that victims don't want to admit and communities don't want to discuss. However, almost 15,000 domestic violence victims in South Dakota last year secured help from the Department of Social Services. This represents a low estimate of the number of South Dakotans who are victims of domestic violence, as many victims fail to seek help.

Since enactment of the Violence Against Women Act in 1994, the number of forcible rapes of women have declined, and the number of sexual assaults nationwide have gone down as well. Despite the success of the Violence Against Women Act, domestic abuse and violence against women continue to plague our communities. Consider the fact that a woman is raped every 5 minutes in this country, and that nearly one in every three adult women experiences at least one physical assault by a partner during adulthood. In fact, more women are injured by domestic violence each year than by automobile accidents and cancer deaths combined. These facts illustrate that there is a need in Congress to help States and communities address this problem that impacts all of our communities.

Last year, I was pleased to join the successful effort to reauthorize the 1994 Violence Against Women Act. In addition to reauthorizing the provisions of the original Violence Against Women Act, the legislation improves our overall efforts to reduce violence against women by strengthening law enforcement's role in reducing violence against women. The legislation also expands legal services and assistance to victims of violence, while also addressing the effects of domestic violence on children. Finally, programs are funded

to strengthen education and training to combat violence against women.

This year, I am cosponsoring legislation, S. 540, that would establish a permanent Violence Against Women Office in the Department of Justice. This bill would guarantee that the office will continue its work into future administrations and ensure that the Congress' goals regarding domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking will be carried out.

As a State lawmaker in 1983, I wrote one of the first domestic violence laws in South Dakota which dedicated a portion of marriage license fees to help build shelters for battered women. I was also a cosponsor of the original Violence Against Women Act in 1990 in the House of Representatives. Even at that time, many people denied that domestic violence existed in our state. Finally, in 1995, the President signed legislation to strengthen federal criminal law relating to violence against women and fund programs to help women who have been assaulted.

Since the Violence Against Women Act became law, South Dakota organizations have received over \$6.7 million in federal funding for domestic abuse programs. In addition, the Violence Against Women Act doubled prison time for repeat sex offenders; established mandatory restitution to victims of violence against women; codified much of our existing laws on rape; and strengthened interstate enforcement of violent crimes against women.

The law also created a national toll-free hotline to provide women with crisis intervention help, information about violence against women, and free referrals to local services. Last year, the hotline took its 300,000th call. The number for women to call for help is: 1-800-799-SAFE.

I am hopeful that, with my support, the Senate will approve S. 540 this year so that we can continue fighting domestic abuse and violence against women in our state and communities.

#### HONORING THE DOOLITTLE RAIDERS

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the Doolittle Raiders on the 60th anniversary of their memorable flights.

The surprise Japanese raid of Pearl Harbor was just the beginning of a series of bad news for Americans at the beginning of World War II. In a period of months, the Japanese had invaded and conquered land stretching from Burma to Polynesia. The United States badly needed a boost in morale. The answer was the Doolittle Raid.

The concept was simple: A Navy task force would take 15 B-25s to a point about 450 miles off of Japan where they would be launched from a carrier to attack military targets at low altitude in five major Japanese cities, including the capital city of Tokyo. The planes would then fly to a base in China where they would join the China-Burma-India

theater. It was the implementation of the plan that made the men involved in the raid heroes.

On April 18, 1941, sixteen flights of B-25s, one captained by South Dakota native son Capt. Donald Smith, left the deck of the U.S.S. *Hornet*, bound for Tokyo. But the Japanese had seen the Americans coming, and the planes were forced to take off from the *Hornet* at least 650 miles from the Japanese coast. The planes would not have enough fuel to make it to China.

All of the planes made their bombing runs on their respective cities, and then turned westward toward China. One crew, with not enough fuel to make it to China, landed in Russia and were prisoners of war for over a year. Eleven of the other planes that reached China faced terrible weather and empty tanks. They proceeded inland on instruments and bailed out once their fuel tanks reached zero. The remaining four pilots crash-landed their aircraft. Chinese aided the Americans in reaching their base, and more than a quarter-million of the Chinese were subsequently killed by the Japanese for their suspected help. Sixty-four of the "Raiders" eventually made it to the base in China. Others were captured and tortured, or died while ejecting their planes.

The Doolittle mission was the first good news from the Pacific front, and was a huge boost to American morale. It also devastated the Japanese people, who had been told by their leaders that their homeland could never be attacked.

In Belle Fourche, SD, on April 18, South Dakotans will be remembering the 60th anniversary of this daring raid. I commend the Doolittle Raiders, and all American veterans, for they are truly America's heroes. Our country must honor its commitments to veterans, not only because it is the right thing to do, but because it is the smart thing to do.

I will continue to lead efforts to ensure that our nation's military retirees and veterans receive the benefits they were promised years ago. While I am pleased with some improvements in military health care funding passed into law last year, I am concerned that more needs to be done. Assuredly, I will continue to fight for military retirees and veterans programs throughout this session of Congress.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, April 5, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,772,523,327,634.26. Five trillion, seven hundred seventy-two billion, five hundred twenty-three million, three hundred twenty-seven thousand, six hundred thirty-four dollars and twenty-six cents.

One year ago, April 5, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,758,941,000,000. Five trillion, seven hundred fifty-eight billion, nine hundred forty-one million.