

and where we can have a certification process that requires that every truck must be inspected; but if it is inspected at a site before it crosses the border, and it gets a sticker, then we will agree that that truck can go through. But we also must have the facilities for those trucks that are not inspected and will not have that certification sticker.

We have to make sure that we provide the money for those inspection stations. This bill has the money. I want to make sure that weighing stations are as much a part of those border safety inspection facilities as are the checks that we would make for brakes, for fatigue, for driver qualifications, for good tires, and all of the other things that we would expect if we had our families in a car going on a freeway. We would hope that we would be safe from encroachment by a truck that did not meet the standards that we have come to expect in our country.

So I hope very much that we can come to a reasonable and expedited conclusion. I think we are all going for the same goal. I think there is no place in this debate for pointing fingers or name-calling. We do not need that. We need good standards, good regulations for the safety of our trucks, and to treat Mexican trucks and United States trucks in a mutually fair way. That is what we are trying to do.

I want to work with all of the parties involved. I think we have a good start in this bill, and I think we will be able to perfect this language in conference. I think everyone has shown the willingness to do that. I hope we can roll up our sleeves and pass what I think is a very good Transportation Appropriations Committee product. I think it is a good bill. It certainly adequately funds the major things that we need to do. With some changes in the Mexican truck language, which the sponsors of the legislation are willing to do, I think we can have a bill that the President will be proud to sign. That is my goal.

Mr. President, I reserve the remainder of my time and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CANTWELL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2001

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 10 a.m. on Friday, July 27. I further ask that on Friday, immediately following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date and the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the time for the two leaders be

reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 2299, the Transportation appropriations bill, and that the time remaining under cloture be counted as if the Senate had remained in session continuously since cloture was invoked earlier this afternoon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. GRAMM. Reserving the right to object. Posing a question to the Chair, the time that is being used this evening will not count against any individual Senator's time; is that right?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. GRAMM. I have no objection.

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

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

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, the majority leader has asked that I announce that there will be no more rollcall votes tonight, but there are expected to be several tomorrow starting in the morning.

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. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I rise to support an amendment to increase the Coast Guard's funding by \$46.1 million. Unfortunately, under the funding levels in the pending bill, the Coast Guard would be forced to reduce routine operations by 20 percent. The increase provided by our amendment will address the Coast Guard's current readiness needs and raise the Coast Guard's law enforcement capabilities to the levels enacted in the budget resolution.

The past two national defense authorization bills mandated pay raises, new medical benefits, recruiting and retention incentives, and other entitlements that exceeded the funds appropriated during the consideration of the regular Transportation appropriations bills. Compounding this, the Coast Guard has had to face rising energy costs, aging assets, and missions that grow increasingly complex. To pay for these increases the Coast Guard has had to dip into its operational accounts resulting in reduced law enforcement patrols.

Without the funding authorized in this amendment, the Coast Guard will again be forced to reduce its level of

operations. These routine operations are extremely important. As you know, the Coast Guard is a branch of the Armed Forces, but on a day-to-day basis, they are a multi-mission agency. Last year alone, the Coast Guard responded to over 40,000 calls for assistance, assisted \$1.4 billion in property, and saved 3,355 lives.

These brave men and women risk their lives to defend our borders from drugs, illegal immigrants, and other national security threats. And in 2000, the Coast Guard seized a record 132,000 pounds of cocaine and 50,000 pounds of marijuana through successful drug interdiction missions. They also stopped 4,210 illegal migrants from reaching our shores. They conducted patrols to protect our valuable fisheries stocks and they responded to more than 11,000 pollution incidents.

On April 6 Senior DEWINE, myself, and 10 of the colleagues offered an amendment to the budget resolution which was adopted by the Senate that addressed this very issue. That amendment increased funding for the Coast Guard by \$250 million.

The amendment that we are offering today, will go a long way toward repairing the fundamental problems facing the Coast Guard. It will increase funding by \$46.1 million in fiscal year 2002 so that the Coast Guard will not need to reduce its routine operations.

Now, during the drafting of the fiscal year 2002 Transportation appropriations bill, Senators MURRAY and SHELBY had a daunting task in crafting a bill that would cover a wide range of priorities within the allocations provided to their subcommittee. Fortunately, they both recognize the importance of the Coast Guard to their home States and the Nation and their bill provides a significant increase above the President's budget request accordingly. However, based upon the Coast Guard's estimates, this increase will not eliminate the need for operational cutbacks.

The \$46.1 million increase we are asking for in this amendment is well below the \$250 million the Senate agreed to in April, but the Coast Guard has assured us that they have taken a careful look at the funding allocations provided in this bill and that this small increase is all that is needed to restore the Coast Guard's operations and readiness. This will allow the Coast Guard to address an alarming spare parts shortage, maintain operations, and take care of other basic readiness problems.

By supporting this amendment, my colleagues will be saying that it is unacceptable to reduce these critical law enforcement missions and supplying the Coast Guard with the resources and tools they need to fulfill the mandates Congress has given them. It provides the Coast Guard with the foundation needed to do its job.

This is a bipartisan amendment, and I thank Senators GRAHAM and DEWINE for their efforts on behalf of the Coast

Guard. This is noncontroversial amendment, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period for morning business, with Senators allowed to speak for not to exceed 10 minutes each, and further, of course, this time, under the previous unanimous consent agreement, will be charged against the postclosure time that is now pending.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. GRAMM. Madam President, reserving the right to object, may I ask a question?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. GRAMM. I would be perfectly happy to go to morning business, but I want to be assured that tonight we are not going to go back on the bill.

Mr. REID. No. The only thing we are going to do is wrapup, and it will have no bearing whatsoever on the legislation.

Mr. GRAMM. With that understanding, I have no objection.

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

NAVAJO CODE TALKERS' CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

Mr. BYRD. Madam President, for those who toil in the clandestine world of national security, where the dictates of secrecy cloak heroes actions in vaults full of files marked with code words and warnings, there are precious few opportunities to stand before bright lights and listen to applause. Today, a group of men were honored who kept their secret from 1942 until 1968, when their talents and contributions in winning the war in the Pacific were finally declassified. Today was their turn in the sun, as the President awarded the original 29 Navajo Code Talkers the Congressional Gold Medal.

Now the world knows how these men gave the U.S. military a decisive edge in communications during the war in the Pacific theater and elsewhere. Their presence at Iwo Jima, at Guadalcanal, and throughout the Pacific provided U.S. military units with secure communications and the element of surprise that allowed U.S. forces to overwhelm dug-in Japanese units and win some of the bloodiest battles in World War II. The Navajo Code Talkers' unique contribution to the nation's security can be counted in those victories and in the number of servicemen who survived the war and returned home to their families.

The story behind the development of the Navajo Code Talkers is fascinating. Every American knows the history behind December 7, 1941, the "day that will live in infamy," as Japanese forces launched a surprise attack on U.S. military bases in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Almost simultaneously, having assured themselves that the U.S. could not react militarily, the Japanese attacked and overwhelmed other islands throughout southeast Asia and the Pacific. U.S. losses were staggering, and reaction was immediate—the U.S. declared war against Japan and the other Axis powers within hours.

Declaring war and waging war, however, are two very different animals. The Pacific theater of war presented U.S. military forces with unique challenges. Distances were large, and the Japanese defenders were able to "dig in," creating bastions from which small numbers of Japanese troops could hold off invading forces and inflict terrible losses upon the military men of the United States. Synchronizing air, land, and seaborne forces in coordinated attacks proved to be a major challenge. And the Japanese held an early intelligence advantage.

An elite group of English-speaking Japanese soldiers would intercept U.S. radio communications and then sabotage the message or issue false commands that led American forces into ambushes. The U.S. responded by creating ever more complex military codes, but his effort had its own problems. At Guadalcanal, military leaders faced a two-and-a-half hour delay in sending and decoding a single message. Something needed to be done.

That something was first suggested by Philip Johnston, a World War I veteran who was familiar with the use of Choctaw Indians as Code Talkers during that war. Johnston, the son of a missionary who was raised on a Navajo Indian reservation and who spoke Navajo fluently, believed that the Navajo language was the ideal candidate for service as a military code. Navajo is an unwritten language of great linguistic complexity. It would be doubtful indeed to suppose that the Japanese Army would possess any fluent Navajo speakers. Mr. Johnston contacted the U.S. Marine Corps with his proposal in early 1942, and after a demonstration of his concept, a group of twenty-nine Navajo speakers was recruited to become Marine Corps radio operators.

Those first twenty-nine men, and the others that followed them and who will be receiving a Congressional Silver Medal in a ceremony next month, developed a code so successful that it became one of the war's most closely held secrets. The first twenty-nine recruits developed the original code vocabulary of some 200 terms. Then, in a novel way of addressing other words outside that initial vocabulary, the group developed an ingenious method of spelling out any other word using any Navajo words that would, when translated into English, begin with the initial letter that was desired. Thus, if a Code Talker wanted to spell "day," for instance, they could use the Navajo word for "dog" or "dig" or "door" followed by any Navajo words that translated to a word beginning with "a" and "y." Thus any five radio operators could pick a

different combination of Navajo words that would, when translated, spell "day," "Dog," "ant," and "yellow" or "door," "apple," "yawn" would both give you the initials "d," "a," and "y" in the correct order. Combined with the unique linguistic and tonal qualities of the Navajo language, such flexibility made the Navajo Code bewildering to the Japanese yet speedy and flexible to use.

Military commanders credited the Code Talkers with saving the lives of countless American soldiers and with providing a decisive edge in such battles as those that took place in Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. Major Howard Connor, the 5th Marine Division signal officer at Iwo Jima, had six Navajo Code Talkers working nonstop during the first 48 hours of the battle for Iwo Jima. Those six men sent and received more than 800 error-free messages during that period. Major Connor stated that "Were it not for the Navajos, the Marines would never have taken Iwo Jima." The raising of the American flag at Iwo Jima was captured on film—I can see it now—captured on film as one of the war's most compelling images, one that was translated into bronze at the Marine Corps memorial here in Washington, here in the city.

Today the Department of Defense has an Undersecretary of Defense for what is termed "C4ISR" which stands for Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance. Billions of dollars are spent in an effort to keep swift-moving combined military forces coordinated in an attack and aware of the dangers around them. In World War II, such things were more rudimentary. Communications were largely confined to open radio waves, making U.S. forces vulnerable to exactly the kind of intercept and sabotage practiced by Japanese forces. The Navajo Code Talkers, like World War I's Choctaw Code Talkers, represented an innovative and hugely successful answer to a problem that plagues military forces to this day. It is not surprising that the Department of Defense wanted to keep the Navajo Code Talkers a closely guarded military secret until 1968. What is laudable is that the Code Talkers kept their secret so well, despite every temptation to brag and every disappointment in having their priceless contribution remain hidden behind a Top Secret stamp.

In receiving the Congressional Gold Medal, the Navajo Code Talkers join a very short list of American heroes and luminaries that began with General George Washington on March 25, 1776. Their service merits this, the long-overdue thanks of a grateful nation and the award of the Congressional Gold Medal. To each Navajo Code Talkers, I offer the sincere thanks and deep appreciation of the United States Senate. My thanks also go to Senator Jeff BINGAMAN for sponsoring the legislation in the Senate authorizing the