jobs as well. This offshoring must be abated somehow so that the expansion of jobs is also an expansion of jobs in this country.

That is the only way this great economy of ours—the strongest on the face of the Earth—is going to provide the resources to sustain and provide that which we need to do what the President talked about last evening. So I just think it is very important for us at this point to begin thinking seriously about the larger questions of fiscal policy and confidence as well.

In conclusion, I am going to support every single dollar requested that will support the troops we have sent abroad to fight for this country. However, that does not mean I am going to support every dollar the President requests for the Pentagon. For example, I expect we will soon have the opportunity to offer some amendments to save money by cancelling some new nuclear weapons that the administration has proposed in the budget.

Let me describe a couple of them. These are things I will not support and hope to cut funding for. We have some people downtown in the administration who believe nuclear weapons should be treated like any other weapon and that we should have a policy to use them in certain circumstances. That is a very dangerous way of thinking. We have never used nuclear weapons, with the exception of at the end of the Second World War. Up to now, American policy has been to have nuclear weapons in order to prevent nuclear weapons from ever being used. That is called the mutually assured destruction concept, which we have lived with for 40 to 50 years. Now we have people who see them as any other weapon. They talk about using them, and they are suggesting we might need to use them first.

Some would like to begin testing nuclear weapons again. We have not tested nuclear weapons for over a decade. The President's budget requests research and development money for the development of new earth penetrator, bunker buster nuclear weapons. The President has requested money for what are called low-yield nuclear weapons. Apparently, they are designer nuclear weapons that can be used more easily on the battlefield. I think this is horribly dangerous for this country. What kind of a signal do we send to other countries that have or want to acquire nuclear weapons? That nuclear weapons can be usable if you just design them in a different way? That if you want to find somebody holed up in a cave, you should just build a designer bunker buster nuclear weapon—not so little really—that you can lob in to destroy the cave.

This is terribly destructive to this country's public policy. I think it is hard for me to find the adjectives to describe how shortsighted and dangerous I think this is. I intend to offer an amendment—and I know some of my colleagues will as well—to take some of that money out that would produce these designer nuclear weapons. We don't need them. After all, there are around 30,000 nuclear weapons on the face of this earth. A couple of years ago, there was a flurry of anxiety in the government when there was a rumor that terrorists had stolen one nuclear weapon. One stolen weapon would cause a seizure, and there are roughly 30,000 strategic and tactical nuclear weapons on the face of the Earth.

We don't need to build more nuclear weapons. And, as the leader in the world, we ought to be striving to use our prestige to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and to reduce the number of nuclear weapons. The last thing we ought to do is undermine nonproliferation efforts by saying that we need to build nuclear weapons to bust bunkers and for other uses.

I think that is horribly dangerous and destructive. That is one area where we might save a little money and begin ratcheting down this deficit that we and the President have to come to grips with.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and 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. STEVENS. 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. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period for routine morning business.

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

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred in Denver, CO. On November 6, 2001, a 35-year-old Middle Eastern man was attacked by two men while on an evening walk. One of the men attacked the victim with a soda can, knocking him to the ground. Once on the ground, the second assailant kicked the victim in the ribs and threw soda cans at his head. The assailants also yelled obscenities and racial slurs at the victim ordering him to ''Go back to his country.''

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I today honor a true American hero from Arkansas—SGT James Sides of the U.S. Army. A native of Wynne, in east Arkansas, James recently returned from Iraq, where he was seriously wounded in action four months ago.

On May 9, two Blackhawk ambulance helicopters with the 571st Medical Company were dispatched to rescue an 11-year old Iraqi child who had stepped on a land mine. As one helicopter landed to evacuate the boy, the other was circling above when it snagged on a power line while trying to avoid enemy fire from below. James a crew member, a flight medic, on the latter helicopter, which crashed into the Tigris River.

Of the 4-member crew, 3 were killed. James was pulled from the wreckage after having been submerged in the water for an estimated five to seven minutes. He was unconscious and near death, with a broken bone in his upper arm and nerve damage. But thanks to swift emergency care from his fellow soldiers he was kept alive until he could be evacuated to a hospital. James was in a coma for a month afterward. He was hospitalized in Kuwait, Germany, and Washington, and spent time in a rehabilitation facility in Tampa.

In July, SGT James Sides returned home to a richly deserved hero's welcome in Wynne. We're all glad to have him back home, but not more than his loving family: His parents, Carter and Leslie Sides; his wife, Rebecca Sides and his two sons, James Jr. and Devin.

Upon his homecoming, James was interviewed by his local newspaper. He credited his survival to his faith and that of his family and friends. In his words: ''If it wasn't for prayers and the good Lord watching over me, I wouldn't be here. God took care of me. The prayers of everyone were answered and I just appreciate all of the prayers. There's no doubt in my mind that prayers get answered.'' He also noted that he's not a hero: ''If I'm a hero, where would that put the guys who are still over there? We can't forget them. They are the ones we should be thinking about.'' Well, James Sides may be too modest to call himself a hero, but the rest of us recognize him as just that—a man of tremendous courage, commitment, and patriotism whose service to his country has been exemplary.

I ask that all my colleagues in the Senate join me in thanking SGT Sides for his service and for his sacrifice, which we can never sufficiently recognize or repay. We wish him a swift and full recovery. We wish all the best to him and his family.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 63. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the unveiling of the portrait bust of Vice President Dan Quayle on September 10, 2003.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–3918. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, Presidential Determination Number 2003-28, relative to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Djibouti, Mauritius, and Zambia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3919. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a Danger Pay Allowance for Jordan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3920. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled ''Visas: Documentation of Nonimmigrants Under the Immigration and Nationality Act'' received on September 2, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3921. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled ''Visas: Documentation of Nonimmigrants Under the Immigration and Nationality Act'' received on September 2, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3922. A communication from the General Counsel, Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination confirmed and discontinuation of service in acting role for the position of Deputy Director, Peace Corps, received on September 2 , 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3923. A communication from the General Counsel, Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination confirmed for the position of Director, Peace Corps, received on September 2, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3924. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs, Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Bringing Farmers into Global Trade''; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3925. A communication from the Vice President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to post-liberation Iraq; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3926. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the report of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Italy; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3927. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, a report of a proposed license for the export of defense articles that are firearms controlled under category I of the United States Munitions List sold commercially under a contract in the amount of $1,000,000 or more to Japan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3928. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3929. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3930. A communication from the Vice President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the text of the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty for Co-operation Regarding Atomic Information and related texts; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3931. A communication from the Comptroller General, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Comptroller's list of General Accounting Office reports issued during the previous year; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3932. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3933. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the government-wide status of financial management dated August 22, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3934. A communication from the Director, Trade and Development Agency, transmitting, a report on the Agency's audit and internal activities; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3935. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination confirmed for the position of Deputy General Counsel; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3936. A communication from the Director of Compensation and Benefits, AgFirst Farm Credit Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's Annual Reports of Federal Pension Plans; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3937. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2002 through March 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3938. A communication from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, the Department's Management Report for the 6-month period ended September 30, 2001; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3939. A communication from the Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's Inventories of Commercial and Inherently Governmental Activities for 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3940. A communication from the Director, Office of Compensation Administration, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pay for Administrative Judge Positions'' (RIN3206–AJ44) received on August 11, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3941. A communication from the Executive Director, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's report under the Sunshine Act for calendar year 2001; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–3942. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers—Disability Demographics and Statistics Center; Community Integration Outcomes Centers; and Health and Function Centers'' (RIN1820–ZA18) received on August 11, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3943. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects Program—Research Projects; Research Infrastructure Capacity Building; Technical Assistance Resource Center on Parenting With a Disability; and Development Projects'' (RIN1820–ZA17) received on August 11, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3944. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Disability and Rehabilitation Projects Program—Collaborative Research Projects in Traumatic Brain Injury'' (RIN1820–ZA24) received on August 11, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3945. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Status of Certain Additional Over-the-Counter Drug Category II and III Active Ingredients'' (RIN0910–AA01) received on August 11, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3946. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Status of Certain Additional Over-the-Counter Drug Category II and III Active Ingredients'' (RIN0910–AA01) received on August 11, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3947. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Sodium Copper Chlorophyllin'' (Doc. No. 00C–