

believe we have had good, short debate and we have had some spirited voting. I hope we can continue that today, which I am confident we will, and make this one of the most productive weeks we have had in a long time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. I thank the assistant minority leader for his comments. Indeed, I believe that by 4 p.m. today the product we end up with will reflect the will of the Senate after adequate time for debate, discussion, and time for people to express both their feelings and their convictions. We will have a product of which we will all be proud, where neither side will agree with it in its entirety.

We have a lot of work to do. I appreciate the comments and look forward to a productive day.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Virginia.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. WARNER. Will the leader suggest perhaps what the order of the first few speakers might be? I see the Senator from Texas is in the Chamber. I understand the Senator from North Dakota is due to arrive shortly and then the Senator from Virginia could follow. Could that be a tentative arrangement?

Mr. REID. That would be certainly appropriate, if the Senator from Texas wishes to speak, and then if Senator DORGAN is on time, which I am confident he will be, then the Senator from Virginia could follow him. I put that in the form of a unanimous consent request.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 11:30 a.m., with the time to be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Texas.

SUPPORT FOR OUR TROOPS

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I thank the majority and minority leaders for setting aside this time for Senators to talk about events in the battlefield. While our troops are in the field in the Iraqi conflict, I certainly hope we will set aside an hour every morning for Senators to talk about happenings in the field, tributes to the troops, and other related incidents. I can think of no better way to start the

Senate every morning than to pay tribute to those who are in the field as we speak.

All of us have seen the graphic pictures on television of the sandstorm and our troops continuing to make their way forward toward Baghdad, even though the pictures show that it is so dark that even in the daytime they have been hampered by these horrendous sandstorms.

I am particularly moved by the prisoners of war and the missing in action. All of us were riveted this weekend to the television that showed our first prisoners taken. There have been quite graphic pictures of these prisoners taken by the Iraqis and published on television stations overseas. They have not, mostly, been published over here. Certain parts have not been published at all.

I say, first, that every single one of the missing or prisoners are from Texas bases, they are from Fort Bliss or Fort Hood—every single one of them.

I have talked to some of the families. I have tried to reach some but I have not been able to. But it really brings it home when you hear that this has happened and you feel as if you know these people because they are so close to home.

I want to reiterate what the President of the United States has said—all of our leaders. We hope the Iraqis will treat the prisoners of war as Americans are treating the Iraqi prisoners of war. Americans are giving the Iraqis medical treatment. They are giving them food and water. I think one of the most poignant early pictures from the field was a marine giving water from his canteen to an Iraqi soldier who had surrendered.

It is my fervent hope that the Iraqis will show a good side in complying with the Geneva Convention so they will not harm these prisoners or in any way treat them improperly, certainly not humiliate them in any way.

There will be more stories of heroism as we go through the coming days and weeks. Today I wish to share some remarks from British Army LTC Tim Collins, who spoke to his troops just before they moved into their first battle against Saddam's forces. These words are stirring and they give us a glimpse into the hearts of those who are carrying out the job in Iraq, who are doing the job so well, part of a coalition of freedom-loving people.

I don't think anyone in America will ever forget the incredible support of the British Government and the British Army. There are many other governments and armies that have come forward. We are up to 45 countries in support of this action, the last I heard. But I particularly was touched by Lieutenant Colonel Collins's speech to his men. He said:

There are some who are alive at this moment who will not be alive shortly. It is my foremost intention to bring every single one of you out alive, but there may be some

among us who will not see the end of this campaign. We will put them in their sleeping bags and send them back. There will be no time for sorrow. . . .

Those who do not wish to go on that journey, we will not send. As for the others, I expect you to rock their world. Wipe them out if that is what they choose. But if you are ferocious in battle, remember to be magnanimous in victory. It is a big step to take another human life. It is not to be done lightly. . . .

I know of men who have taken life needlessly in other conflicts. I can assure you they live with the mark of Cain upon them. If someone surrenders to you, then remember they have that right in international law and ensure that one day they can go home to their family. The ones who wish to fight, well, we aim to please. . . .

We go to liberate, not to conquer. We will not fly our flags in their country. Iraq is steeped in history. It is the site of the Garden of Eden, of the Great Flood and the birthplace of Abraham. Tread lightly there. . . .

You will see things that no man could pay to see and you will have to go a long way to find a more decent, generous and upright people than the Iraqis. You will be embarrassed by their hospitality even though they have nothing. . . .

Colonel Collins and his men formed the first battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment. Colonel Collins is from Belfast and most of his men are from Northern Ireland. We are very proud to have them among our coalition.

I think I speak for every American in saying we support our troops, we support our allies, and we support everything they are doing in the field as we are here, enjoying the freedom they are fighting to keep for us, for our children and our grandchildren.

We will never be able to fully repay the debt to those who have lost their lives, but we will always remember them. We will respect them. We will duly honor them as time goes by, as one of those brave souls in the history of our country who have allowed us to keep the freedom that is the beacon to the world.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Dakota.

THE BUDGET

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, 100 years from now, none of us will be here. I guess that is the bad news. We will all be dead a century from now. But those who are interested in who we were, what we were, what our value systems were about, could take a look at what we are doing here and determine a little something about what we thought was important.

Someone once asked the question, if you were charged with writing an obituary for someone else and knew nothing about them but had to write it from their check register—the only information you had about someone was their check register—how would you write their obituary? I suppose you would find out what they spent their money on, what they thought was important, what was their value system.

So, too, could you evaluate the value system of this country and this Congress by this budget we are voting on today.

I am going to vote against this budget. I will tell you why. Because I think in the rearview mirror, this budget represents a value system that misses much of what is important about what our obligation is today.

We are at war. We are at war with terrorists. We are at war in Iraq. We have a responsibility to protect our homeland. We have a serious threat with respect to North Korea, apparently now building additional nuclear weapons.

What does this budget document tell us is the most important element in the Federal Government? They say the most important element is to give those who have the highest incomes in America more tax cuts.

Let me turn to page 6 and tell you what this budget document says. This budget document says, assume all of the President's proposed tax cuts, most of which go to wealthy Americans—assume that. This is the result on page 6: By the year 2013, this country will have a nearly \$12 trillion Federal debt—this country will have a nearly \$12 trillion debt. The gross debt will be \$11.919 trillion—almost \$12 trillion.

We are saying to those men and women fighting for this country today, you go ahead and pursue this battle on behalf of America and when you come back what we will do is burden you, we will saddle your shoulders with all of this debt because the priority in this budget is tax cuts, most of which will go to upper income Americans.

We heard all day yesterday on amendments that this is going to hurt the growth package. What growth? Where is the growth? The only growth I see in this package is going from \$6.6 trillion in debt to \$12 trillion in debt. Yes, it is on page 6. That assumes all the tax cuts. This is the President's plan. The plan is to go to \$12 trillion in debt. I don't think that is much of a plan. This grows the economy, does it? It produces new jobs, new economic opportunity? New tax revenues? I guess not, not if you are going to go to a \$12 trillion gross debt. I do not understand at all what on Earth is happening here.

About 2 years ago we had this debate about dramatically increased tax cuts. Some of us said let's be a bit conservative. The President said, no, there is no need to be conservative; let's pass all these tax cuts. Then we had a recession. The technology bubble burst. The stock market pancaked. We had 9/11. We had a war on terrorism. We had the largest corporate scandals in decades and decades—perhaps in this country's history. And the result, of course, was very large budget surpluses turned to very large budget deficits.

Now we are told if we just pass this budget it will be better. But look on page 6. Assuming all the President wants, assuming all he asks us to do, on page 6, they say, in the year 2013,

our gross debt will be nearly \$12 trillion. Explain that. Explain this. It makes no sense. That is why I am going to vote no.

RECONSTRUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN IRAQ

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, let me make a comment about another item. We will be, later this week, responding to the President's request for a supplemental appropriations.

Clearly, we need to provide supplemental funding. We will not send America's sons and daughters to war and then decide we will not provide the funds necessary. This Congress will and must.

One piece, however, of this request by the President is for reconstruction assistance in Iraq, and humanitarian assistance. Should we do humanitarian assistance? You bet we should. Absolutely. It ought to be a first priority.

But reconstruction? Let me make the case that reconstruction in Iraq, in my judgment, should be funded from Iraqi resources and Iraqi oil. This is a country rich in resources, endowed with very substantial oil reserves.

While I will support reconstruction in Iraq, I am one who believes, when the job in Iraq is finished, the resources and the oil that exists in the country of Iraq ought to produce the revenue for the reconstruction of Iraq. I intend to make that case in the Appropriations Committee later this week and next week here in the Congress.

COVERAGE OF THE WAR ON TELEVISION

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, let me make one final point while I am in the Chamber.

I came to talk about this budget and the \$12 trillion of debt that this budget document heads us toward. Let me make one final point. I watch the television coverage every morning, as do most Americans, with respect to the war. And my thoughts and prayers are with our soldiers. My thoughts and prayers are with the innocent folks in Iraq. We have no quarrel with the Iraqi citizens. This is with Saddam Hussein and his regime.

It breaks my heart to see casualties on any side. But one of the things that concerns me, in the mornings when I watch this coverage, or in the evenings before I retire and I watch this coverage, is there are a number of retired generals and admirals and others who stand before the cameras, showing us, on the maps, exactly where our troops are moving, exactly what the strategy is, saying: Here is the route to Baghdad for this division and that division.

I ask myself: I wonder if that is in the interests of the American soldiers fighting in Iraq. I just wonder. Do we need to have retired officers, with pointers, pointing to maps and saying, "Here is where this division is going;

here is where I think it is going to be," and some saying, "I disagree with the current strategy"?

I worry a lot about whether the information provided to the other side—the information provided to our adversaries from that kind of briefing that goes on on every channel, every network, by retired officers, who know a great deal about battle plans—I wonder whether they should be offering that precise analysis of exactly where troop movements are on television morning, noon, and night.

The 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week coverage on this is something I think provides information to the American people—and I think we want information—but I do not believe anyone wants information disclosed during this 24-7 news cycle in a manner that would in any way alert the adversary about what is happening.

I worry sometimes, when I see this on television: Is this healthy? Is more information made available, by retired generals and admirals and others who are analyzing troop movements, than really should be made available to our adversaries? I just ask the question. I think it is an important question to ask. I intend to ask it this morning in the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, where I will return in just a few moments.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, parliamentary inquiry.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator will state his inquiry, please.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I ask, what is the parliamentary situation?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. We are in morning business until 11:30, at which time we will proceed out of morning business to resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 23.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, has morning business been allocated equally to each side?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, we have the Senator from Virginia to speak next. And I believe the time will be equally divided after that.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak following the Senator from Virginia. As I understand it, the Senator from Virginia is now to be recognized to speak. I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak following the Senator from Virginia.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I will certainly accede to that, but that then we should indicate the Senator from Utah would follow the Senator from Maryland, if that is agreeable.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I would also