

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the concurrent resolution, as amended. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 56, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 108 Leg.]

YEAS—56

Alexander	Crapo	McConnell
Allard	DeWine	Miller
Allen	Dole	Murkowski
Baucus	Domenici	Nelson (NE)
Bayh	Ensign	Nickles
Bennett	Enzi	Roberts
Bond	Fitzgerald	Santorum
Breaux	Frist	Sessions
Brownback	Graham (SC)	Shelby
Bunning	Grassley	Smith
Burns	Gregg	Snowe
Campbell	Hagel	Specter
Chafee	Hatch	Stevens
Chambliss	Hutchison	Sununu
Cochran	Inhofe	Talent
Coleman	Kyl	Thomas
Collins	Landrieu	Thomas
Cornyn	Lott	Voivovich
Craig	Lugar	Warner

NAYS—44

Akaka	Edwards	Lieberman
Biden	Feingold	Lincoln
Bingaman	Feinstein	McCain
Boxer	Graham (FL)	Mikulski
Byrd	Harkin	Murray
Cantwell	Hollings	Nelson (FL)
Carper	Inouye	Pryor
Clinton	Jeffords	Reed
Conrad	Johnson	Reid
Corzine	Kennedy	Rockefeller
Daschle	Kerry	Sarbanes
Dayton	Kohl	Schumer
Dodd	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Dorgan	Leahy	Wyden
Durbin	Levin	

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 23), as amended, was agreed to, as follows:

(The concurrent resolution will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENZI). The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I wish to thank all of our colleagues for their cooperation. We did finish the budget resolution by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, as we committed to do. That would not have happened if it had not been for the cooperation certainly of Senator CONRAD and his staff.

I wish to thank Mary Naylor and their entire team, as well as Hazen Marshall, Stacey Hughes, Beth Felder, and our team. The staffs had to work extremely hard over the weekend. This lasted about 2 or 3 days longer than is usual for the budget process. I hope maybe we can streamline it next year a little bit more.

I thank all the staff for their hard work. They put in a lot of hours. We produced a product that is not perfect but it is a significant improvement over no budget. Again, I thank my colleagues for their cooperation.

I ask unanimous consent that a list of staff Democrats and Republicans be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Amy Angelier; Lauren Baylor; Dan Brandt, Economist; Cara Duckworth; Beth Smerko

Felder; Ron Floyd; Megan Hauck; Jim Hearn; Jody Hernandez; Stacey Hughes; Rachel Jones; Don Kent; Hazen Marshall; David Myers; Maureen O'Neill; and David Ortega.

Gayle Osterberg; Anne Oswald; David Pappone; Roy Phillips; Cheri Reidy; Margaret Stewart; Bob Taylor; Jennifer Winkler; Lee Greenwood; Letitia Fletcher; Tim Nolan; Lynne Seymour; George Woodall; Shelley Amdur; Steve Bailey; and Rock Cheung, Jr. Jim Esquea; Tim Galvin; Lawrence Hershon; Jim Horney; Mike Jones; Erin Keogh; Lisa Konwinski; Sarah Kuehl; Jessie LaVine; Stu Nagurka; Mary Naylor; Koby Noel; Steve Posner; Lee Price; John Righter; Dakota Rudesill; and Barry Strumpf.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, first, I congratulate the chairman of our committee on successfully passing a budget resolution. As strongly as I disagree with the contents of this resolution, I feel equally as strongly about the way this process was conducted, and the chairman's leadership both in the committee and on the floor in terms of the tone that he set and in terms of the attitude he brought to the job. It makes a big difference, and we appreciate it.

I will now take a moment to thank staff: Mary Naylor, my staff director; Jim Horney and Sue Nelson, my deputy staff directors; Lisa Konwinski, my counsel; Shelley Amdur, who handles education and appropriations; along with John Righter, who is our chief numbers man and handles appropriations as well; Steve Bailey, who does taxes; Sarah Kuehl, who handles Social Security and transportation; Jim Esquea, who handles Medicaid, welfare, and veterans; Tim Galvin, who handles agriculture; Mike Jones, homeland security and energy issues; Dakota Rudesill, who handles defense; Rock Cheung, international affairs; Lee Price, our chief economist; Koby Noel, our chart master—as my colleagues know, we produced a lot of charts—and Stu Nagurka and Steve Posner, in charge of communications for me; and Jessie Lavine, Erin Keogh, and Lawrence Hershon, our staff assistants. We appreciate very much their hard work.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 95; all after the resolving clause is stricken and the text of S. Con. Res. 23 is inserted in lieu thereof, the resolution is adopted, the Senate insists on its amendment and requests a conference with the House, and the Chair appoints conferees.

The Presiding Officer (Mr. ENZI) appointed Mr. NICKLES, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. SARBANES, conferees on the part of the Senate.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95), as amended, was agreed to.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CONRAD. I now ask there be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. 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.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FITZGERALD). Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I rise today with great honor and pride to pay tribute to the men and women of our Armed Forces, tens of thousands of whom are deployed right now in the Middle East in military action against Iraq. I encourage all my colleagues in the Senate, and in the Congress, that we take a few moments out of each and every one of our days we are engaged in this conflict to come to the floor and speak to our constituents, speak to the American people, and speak to the servicemen and servicewomen who are so valiantly out there defending our freedoms and this great country that we believe in. We are going to take a few moments here today to talk about how important are these men and women in service to our country. We would like to encourage, again, all Members of Congress to come to the floor and spend a few minutes out of their day or out of their week to talk about the incredible lives of these individuals who are there on our behalf, defending our freedom.

Over the course of the last week, since hostilities began in earnest on March 19, our troops have made tremendous progress toward the objectives of their mission. At the same time, we have seen a few setbacks, but these do not detract from what has been accomplished. For that, we have no one to thank but the courageous, hard-working men and women of the American service arm and the coalition of Armed Forces.

We hear a great deal about the technology behind this war—missiles, aircraft, telecommunications devices, weaponry, and other equipment of battle. But we should all remember that even the best equipment and the best technology is of little value without the best soldiers and commanders to make it useful.

Today we have over 230,000 troops representing air, sea, and land forces in the theater, with our allies in the coalition contributing an additional 45,000. These young men and women are serving in a wide variety of capacities but with a unifying mission—to liberate the Iraqi people from the brutal regime of Saddam Hussein, and to destroy his weapons of mass destruction which threaten our globe. They are separated from their families and their friends, placing themselves in great personal danger in order to provide for a safer, more secure world for all of us.

I myself have a young man from my staff who is serving in the Middle East.

He was called up on a Tuesday, left here on Friday, and I just recently heard from his mother. He is in Baghdad. Our thoughts and prayers go out to him. We want him to know we are thinking about him and that we are looking forward to his safe return to us here at home.

We are all deeply grateful for the sacrifices our service men and women are making and the risks they are taking on all of our behalf. Those sacrifices and those risks will not be forgotten.

In addition, I remind my colleagues that a large number of these troops come from the National Guard and the Reserve, nearly 217,000 at our last count. Over 2,000 of these guardsmen and reservists come from my home State of Arkansas. One of those soldiers is Major Stephen Wilson, of Rogers, AK.

Major Wilson, who is 38 years old, is the operations officer for an Apache attack helicopter unit, the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry of the 11th Aviation Regiment. We have all seen in recent days the difficult odds our attack helicopter crews work under. They are vulnerable to small arms fire from the ground, not to mention difficult weather conditions that we have all been seeing on the television. In spite of these difficulties, Major Wilson and his colleagues persevere in an extremely challenging but extremely necessary mission.

He is a proud representative of our State and our Nation, and we are extremely proud of him for his service to this country.

If there were a way to thank each and every soldier by name, I would do it. I would take the necessary time to make sure that each of them knows how important they are in this conflict and in our resolve. Since it is not possible for me to recognize who is serving today, allow me at least to give a sense of where these units come from all across our great State of Arkansas: Little Rock, North Little Rock, Fort Smith, Van Buren, Siloam Springs, West Memphis, Ozark, Charleston, Marked Tree, Fayetteville, Pine Bluff—and the list could go on.

Furthermore, these units are comprised of individuals from all over the State, meaning that we have soldiers serving from virtually every community in our great State of Arkansas. It is a reminder that even from thousands of miles away, Arkansans have a very serious stake in this war.

On behalf of the people of Arkansas, I wish to say we are proud of all of our troops, and we look forward to welcoming them back home soon and safely.

It is also true that as of today we have suffered casualties, and we should not turn away from this fact. It is believed that up to 14 of our troops from both the U.S. and our broader coalition are missing or captured by enemy forces. Our prayers are that they will be returned to their units safely and timely.

We also had a number of our troops wounded in battle, and we wish them

the best in a speedy, full recovery from all of their injuries.

Most tragically of all, over 40 troops from the U.S. and from Great Britain have been killed in action or in accidents. We extend our deepest sympathies to their families, their friends, their loved ones, and we vow that we will honor their service and their memories by finishing this great task in which they have given their lives. Those lives will not have been lost in vain.

In the days and weeks to come, we will no doubt discover that others of our troops will have been captured, wounded, or cut down, but we must remain firm in our resolve that Operation Iraqi Freedom will continue to move forward.

My own father, who passed away last October, was a veteran of the Korean war, and he taught me always to respect the great commitment made by our troops in fighting to protect our freedoms. He taught me better to understand the mind of a soldier when he shared with me the stories and experiences he had on the front lines of Korea. And also, sitting at the foot of the chair of my grandfather, who served in World War I—both of my grandfathers did—I listened to stories of his travels on trains from Helena, AR, west to Little Rock, to catch another train to boot camp, and then on to France.

To better understand the minds of the men and women who serve us in the armed services, each of us must take the time to reflect on the personal stories of the family members, the neighbors, the friends, the staff, all of those who are so critically involved in this conflict in which we now find ourselves.

I again encourage all of my colleagues to take those few moments out of their day, out of their week, to think about what these generous souls are giving on our behalf to be there, to defend so many of the freedoms we in this great country take for granted, to remember them and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

Our troops of today's generation deserve the same respect for the work they do as when we look back at many of our family members who have served in previous wars.

As I reflect today with my colleagues in the Senate, there is no one I think of more at this moment than one of my colleagues here in the Senate, who I would like to share my time with, someone who has a son overseas in the Middle East.

I have to say, as a mother of twin boys who are now in the first grade, it is amazing to imagine how quickly our children grow up. The questions that I get at night from my children—Where they are going? What they are doing? What is our country involved in? Where will they be in 10 or 15 years from now?—it is so important for each of us to reflect on this as we lift up the service men and women who are there valiantly now defending our freedoms.

They and their families will be in our hearts and in our minds and in our prayers in the coming weeks. We wish them Godspeed, God's safety, and a timely return home to this country and this land that we all love so much.

I thank you, Mr. President. And I want to again tell my colleague, Senator JOHNSON, how much I appreciate him and his family for the incredible contribution they make with his son serving in the Middle East right now. It is an unbelievable gift, and we are all truly indebted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I am honored to have an opportunity to take part in this tribute to our American troops this evening here on the floor of the Senate.

I express a special commendation to my colleague and good friend, Senator LINCOLN of Arkansas, for her comments and for her leadership in helping to put together this tribute, as well as my South Dakota colleague, Senator DASCHLE, for all his support of our troops and his suggestion that we go ahead with a regular tribute and acknowledgement of the contributions our American military personnel are making.

This is a matter of particular personal importance to me with my own oldest son Brooks serving in the 101st Airborne in Iraq today. But there are thousands of others from South Dakota—Reserve, National Guard, Active Duty, Ellsworth Air Force Base in our case in South Dakota—and around the Nation who each are making profound contributions to the security and freedom of this country and for stability in that troubled part of the world.

We owe so much to each and every one of them, not only to honor the men and women who put on our Nation's uniform and jeopardize their lives by doing so but their families who suffer mightily from the sacrifices that are made, and from the prospect of death, injury, captivity—all that to which our military personnel subject themselves.

In our own family's case, we recognize this is a voluntary military in this day and age. Our son Brooks chose to enter the military. It was not my encouragement, particularly. It was his choice. All the credit goes to him. And that young man, with so many others, has served in four conflicts in the last 5 years: Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq, now Afghanistan. And we in South Dakota, and many around the country, do what we can to demonstrate our pride and support. In South Dakota, we have revived an old World War I tradition of wearing the blue star if we have a family member in the war. We have banners on our front door and at my offices around the State and here in Washington with that same blue star. We recognize that as the tradition goes, some of those blue stars will eventually become gold stars, and that is the symbol worn by parents who have lost a loved one.

We keep a map of Iraq in our family kitchen, as I am sure, in some similar way, the hundreds of thousands of other parents do all across this country, trying to keep track, as best we can, where our son is, as others keep track of where their sons and daughters are, their husbands and wives.

The communication, of course, at this time is just spotty. Initially, we were able to get a couple e-mails. A short time ago, I received a note from our son Brooks on the back of a beef stew box, a piece of cardboard. They had no paper anywhere, and they had to make do as they could. We will keep this forever.

We sent, obviously, notes and cards to them. There are organizations that have encouraged this to go on, and I am sure that builds morale, as these troops suffer through incredible circumstances, both militarily as well as just the sandstorms and all that goes with living out in a desert and in a troubled place.

One of the things Barbara and I recognize, that all the other parents share in a way that is more profound than could possibly be the case unless you have had a loved one in a circumstance like this, is that every glance at the television, every glance toward the radio could convey to you at any moment some catastrophic news. There are many who follow the conflict, have an interest in it, but the families recognize more so than anyone the very real nature of what is happening.

These are not video games. There is a tendency sometimes in the media to talk about collateral damage and casualties, and you see numbers on the maps and colored diagrams going in one direction or another. But the families recognize that each one of those represents real people and real hopes and the love of real families. We in this body understand the sacrifices that need to be made. But it goes almost beyond understanding how much we owe to these men and women and all that they do.

This past week, Barbara and I were listening at our home to some reports, and there was a report of casualties and deaths in our son's division. I went to tell Barbara about it, and it was almost impossible for me to even speak. She had been following the news herself and knew that in this instance it involved a different brigade than where our son was; our son had left Kuwait for Iraq the day before. We breathed a sigh of relief as parents will when their own son or daughter has escaped harm, but we recognized more than ever because of our circumstances that while our son in that case was safe, the losses were very real. Someone else's son, someone else's husband was injured, was killed, somewhere else families are devastated.

We will win this war. We have the greatest military in the world. The world will be a better place when we are victorious. But it is important for us to take stock of the men and women

who make this possible. It is important for us to express our honor for what they do and who they are. It is important for us to share our prayers that this conflict is a short and decisive conflict with the fewest losses of life possible on either side.

We as a people owe more to these men and women than words can possibly convey. It is my hope that as we follow this conflict and pray that it is a short one, we in the Senate will do all we can, obviously, to express our honor and our praise for these people, but also that we will go beyond that to take the steps necessary so when they come home, they will come home to a country where there is opportunity, where schools for their children are good, where the environment is clean, the economy is growing, where there are jobs available that are challenging and meaningful to them, and that so long as they remain in the military, their pay, their housing, their quality of life is what it deserves to be.

Every night when we go home and live in relative comfort, I hope we keep in mind these hundreds of thousands of our troops, who this very night, many of them, are sleeping in a hole in the sand 2 or 3 feet deep to protect themselves from shrapnel during the course of the evening, blowing sand, horrible weather, fear of snipers, bombs, biological, chemical warfare that could arise at any moment, and appreciate the quality of these troops and how we as a free people could not possibly sustain our freedoms were it not for the willingness of these troops, these men and women, to voluntarily step into this kind of circumstance and fight this war.

I yield to our leader, Senator DASCHLE. Again, I acknowledge my gratitude to him for helping to organize this tribute to our American troops.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I am sure everyone can appreciate the difficulty that our Senator from South Dakota has experienced in coming to the floor to talk, as he has with pride and enormous appreciation, of the commitment made by a member of his own family.

On a regular basis, we want to come to the Chamber with our Republican colleagues and call attention to all those who, like Brooks Johnson, are now serving in the Persian Gulf. I thank the distinguished Senator from Arkansas for agreeing to help organize today's colloquy and reiterate my deep gratitude to my dear friend and colleague, Senator JOHNSON. We thought it would be appropriate today, as we begin this practice, to call the Senate's attention to the fact that Senator JOHNSON is the only Member of this Congress who has a child serving in Iraq.

As he has noted, Brooks, his son, is a staff sergeant with the Army's 101st Airborne Division. He is 31 years old. I

know him, and I can see why his parents are as proud of him as they are. He is remarkable. He has turned down offers to attend recruiter's school because he said he wants to be close to the men he leads.

He is 6'1", 215 pounds, almost all shoulders and biceps. He loves the rough-and-tumble of the outdoors. But he also enjoys gourmet cooking and Broadway musicals. He is a very thoughtful man, an eloquent speaker. He loves to read the classics. When he was serving in Afghanistan, he was reading the history of the Peloponnesian wars.

He has known since he was a very young man that he wanted to serve and protect our country. He missed his own high school graduation because he was attending Marine Corps Reserves basic training at Parris Island. He went to college at the University of South Dakota, and during college, Brooks served first in the Marine Corps Reserve, then the Army Reserve, then the Army National Guard.

The reason he served in so many branches is that he was looking for a unit that was close to college. He wanted to be able to learn and to serve at the same time. When he decided to make a life of the military, he chose the Army. He has now been on active duty for 8 years.

This is Staff Sergeant Johnson's fourth war in 5 years. He served in Bosnia. He served in Kosovo. He arrived in Afghanistan in December of 2001, 2 months after the terrorist attack on America. He served in Afghanistan for 6 months.

Like so many family members who have loved ones in this war, TIM and Barb aren't exactly sure where Brooks is detailed, but they do know his division has been moved into Iraq.

The other day, TIM came to the floor and he shared something with me. I hope he doesn't mind if I share it with our colleagues. Brooks sent him a postcard, but this isn't a normal postcard. This is a postcard carved out of the box of an MRE, one of these portable meals that they take with them. I have eaten them myself. They are a box about like this. Well, Brooks carved out one side of an MRE, brown, cardboard box. On one side of that postcard box he wrote a message to his parents. On the other side was the address to his parents and his return address. Up in the right-hand corner, instead of a postage stamp, it said "free." There are a lot of connotations to the word "free" on that postcard.

So we think of Brooks and the freedom he fights for, the freedom he has, and all the things that we cherish as Americans, recognizing that Brooks Johnson learned those values from two extraordinary parents.

A quarter of a million Americans and several thousand South Dakotans today serve in the Persian Gulf. We are in awe of their courage. Their dedication. Their sacrifice. We are grateful to every one of them and their families.

We are resolved to ensure they have everything they need so they can be successful and return home safely.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. 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. Mr. President, it seems only yesterday that Senator JOHNSON and I were sharing stories about our sons, the athletes. They both were back here with their parents in the East while we were in the Congress. They were little boys then. Then they got to where they were in high school, and they were bigger boys, but they were boys. So it is hard to imagine now our two boys are grown up. They are adults.

Barbara and TIM's son, though, is really grown up. This young man is fighting in the deserts, in the sands of Iraq so that we can continue to enjoy our freedoms in America.

I had to call TIM at home this past Sunday to talk about some of the issues we were working on legislatively. I hated to call TIM because I am sure he and Barbara at this stage do not like to get phone calls on Sunday afternoons, during nonworking hours. I am sure TIM and Barbara every night pray for their boy and probably a few times during the day.

All of us should recognize that we, too, can join in a prayer for the Johnson's son Brooks. We need to do that because you see, what is going on in Iraq is more than just numbers. We hear numbers such as 250,000 people over there, and we hear talk about skirmishes that have taken place. I pray that Brooks Johnson will return home safely to his parents, TIM and Barbara.

I received a message yesterday, as we are notified as Senators, when something happens to someone from our States. Yesterday I received a message about a young man from Tonopah, NV. It used to be a big booming town where heavyweight prize fights were held, and at the turn of the last century it was a great mining community. Now it is a relatively—not relatively, it is a small place.

A man by the name of Frederick Pokorney came there. His parents moved around a lot. He wanted to finish high school. He was a sophomore. He was able to stay with the sheriff. Wade Lieseke took in this young man. It was great for Tonopah High School because he was large—6 foot 7, very athletic; he was a linebacker, a center for the basketball team. He was a great young man, quiet and kept to himself.

To make a long story short, he went into the military. He was in the military for 11 years. He was just made a second lieutenant. He was one of the

seven who was taken down in an ambush and killed.

People who serve in the Iraqi conflict are in harm's way—every one of them. My heart goes out to Senator JOHNSON. Through TIM JOHNSON, we all recognize the ultimate sacrifice that young men and women are making in Iraq. He represents, in effect, the Congress. He is the only Member I am aware of who has a family member serving in that conflict.

I congratulate TIM and Barbara for raising such a wonderful son. As I said, Brooks sets a great example for other young men and women in this country. I again say I hope that we all celebrate with the Johnsons when he returns home.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Nevada for his words. We came to Congress together with TIM JOHNSON many years ago and feel a special kinship and friendship with TIM and Barbara and the family.

I was fortunate enough to be walking past the Chamber and saw Senator TIM JOHNSON speaking and stopped to hear the words he had to say about his son. I thought he showed remarkable composure when he talked about his son who is currently with the Army in Iraq in the midst of this battle. Obviously, he has a great deal of pride and, of course, a great deal of concern, natural concern of any parent.

And then to hear Senator DASCHLE's special tribute to Brooks Johnson told us a little more about this young man, an extraordinary young man who has done so many things in his short life of 31 years and has tried over and over to continue to serve his country.

What a great reminder of the men and women who are serving their country overseas today. I am glad this Senate went on record today with an incredible vote of 100 to 0 to increase combat pay and the family separation allowance of those who are serving. That is something that should be done, and I am glad we said it today and said it decisively, and I hope we move quickly to change the law to help those families.

I also wish to say before I yield to my great friend and colleague from West Virginia, that I thank the Senator from Arkansas, Mrs. LINCOLN, who has brought us to the floor now several times to talk about our men and women in uniform. It is important we continue on a daily basis to remind America that this Senate, as well as the Congress, is very sensitive to the fact that what is happening on the screens of the television just a few feet away involves real lives and real Americans and that our commitment is to them.

The vote in the Senate just last week, 99 to 0 in support of those men and women in uniform, I think shows the current state of affairs in America transcends our political differences. We may disagree on foreign policy, we may

disagree on what led up to this war, but when the first shot was fired, 99 Senators, everyone voting stood up and said: At this point, make no mistake; we are standing behind our men and women in uniform.

I have been surprised and disappointed by some of the comments I have received in my office from a few people, some by e-mail and some by telephone, who have taken exception to that vote. They said: We thought you voted against the use-of-force resolution, and now what are you doing, hedging your bet by saying you support the men and women in uniform?

What I have said to them and I say on the floor of the Senate is: You better draw a clear and bright line between the debate on foreign policy and whether or not we stand up for these young men and women who have volunteered to serve their country to risk their lives in battle.

I lived through the Vietnam war and remember it as one of the most formative experiences in my life and one of the saddest chapters in American history, the fact that many people channeled their hatred for the war toward the men and women in uniform. That was unfair. It was unfortunate. It should never be repeated.

Political leaders make decisions about foreign policy, committing our troops in various parts of the world, and those men and women who are sworn to serve the leaders and our Nation meet their call of duty, and we should never forget they did not make the foreign policy decision. They are serving their Nation as we asked them to serve. We should never ever compromise our commitment to them. That is why I think the resolution we have adopted, the vote today when it comes to combat pay and the tribute on the floor, is a reminder that we stand as one, shoulder to shoulder in unity, with these men and women in uniform.

In the congressional family of 100 Senators and 435 Members of the House, it turns out we have, to my knowledge, only one son, and that is TIM JOHNSON's son, Brooks, who is in our Senate congressional family serving our Nation.

We are going to be mindful of him. I ask TIM every day: Have you heard anything from Brooks? We will be mindful of him, as we are mindful of people from my town of Springfield, IL, or my State of Illinois who may be in harm's way. It is part of an expanding American family that we come together in times of fear and in times of crisis.

To those who oppose the war, to those who favor peace, please draw that clear bright line: We should never take it out on the men and women in uniform, no matter how much we may disagree with the policy. And I think most Americans who feel that way, even those with misgivings with the events that led up to this war, feel this commitment should be singular.

I mentioned Senator BYRD. Today there is a front-page story in the Washington Post about a family in West Virginia—and I imagine he will bring our attention to that in his remarks which follow. It, too, tells the story of a young woman, in this case, who made an extraordinary sacrifice and is in an usual, unpredictable situation perhaps being captured in Iraq.

I take the floor today to thank Senator LINCOLN and Senator JOHNSON. I urge my colleagues, if you can, spare a few moments each day to come and tell a story of those you know who are serving this war and serving this Nation so well.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, just an hour or so ago, barely 50 feet out this door, many remaining members of the Delaware Army and National Guard were gathered. Coincidentally, it was a day that had long been scheduled for them to be on the Hill. National Guard associations from all over the country have converged on Washington, DC.

In the last several weeks, many of their colleagues in the Army and National Guard have since deployed to the Middle East, to the area around Iraq, and some to Iraq. On Sunday night, at a National Guard headquarters hangar in Wilmington, DE, at the airport we said goodbye to almost 100 of the members of the 166th Military Airlift Command as they set off to join their colleagues and their aircraft on the other side of the world. They are the maintainers of the C-130s which are part of the air bridge from the United States to Iraq.

It starts here with a very large C-5 aircraft and includes the C-17s, and at the end of the delivery system, the end of the air bridge, the C-130s, the smaller sort of rangers. The maintainers, the members of the 166th who have gone to join their colleagues, are the folks who make sure the landing gear works, the radio works, the hydraulic works, the avionics systems work. Without them we would not have C-130s that function, and without C-130s we would not have the kind of air bridge that we need to be successful in this war.

I was privileged to be there to salute them and send them on their way, as were our former Governor, former commander in chief of the Delaware National Guard, MIKE CASTLE, our Congressman, and our Governor, our current commander in chief of the Delaware National Guard, Ruth Ann Minner. I was privileged to be their commander in chief for much of the last decade when I served as Governor of Delaware.

As we said goodbye to the men and women of the 166th, we also had important words for the families of those who stayed behind, the wives and the husbands, the children, the parents of those whose loved ones are climbing on to that C-5 and getting prepared to fly thousands of miles from home. In some

cases—and I say this as one who deployed on several occasions as a naval flight officer in the Navy back during the Vietnam war—the deployment is tougher not on the one being deployed but on the ones who stay behind. To those families we owe a lot because they have shared their loved ones with us, and in many cases they put their families in difficult straits at a tough time.

We voted today on several amendments to the budget resolution which are designed to lighten the load a little bit for those who are being deployed, particularly those who are being put into a hazardous place to perform their duties. I am grateful for that and would express on behalf of not just the families of the 166th whose loved ones deployed this Sunday but on behalf all the members of the Delaware National Guard who are now serving in this war, thank you on their behalf and on behalf of their families for thinking of them, for remembering them along with the other Guard and Reserve men and women who are being called to active duty around this country.

During the time I served on active duty in Southeast Asia, we would from time to time receive a Reserve air crew that came in usually from the west coast, but flying their P-3 aircraft for 3 years hunting for Red October, tracking Soviet nuclear submarines, but also flying low-level missions along the coast of Vietnam and Cambodia.

In those days, back in the early 1970s, when we had a tough and dangerous job to do, we would never turn it over to a reserve air crew. The Active-Duty crews would take care of that, and we would be careful to send the Reserve air crews on a job where they could not get in trouble or could not get hurt. That was 30-some years ago. Today it is such a different world. We have guards men and women, activated, deployed, reservists called to active duty who are serving alongside full-time soldiers, sailors, and airmen. They are doing the very same jobs, dangerous jobs, tough dirty jobs in some cases, and to them we owe an enormous debt of gratitude.

A closing word to my friend Senator TIM JOHNSON of South Dakota whose son is over in Iraq, and I am sure a matter of great concern to him and to Barbara, his wife, a concern that is shared by literally tens of thousands of families across this country. I say a special prayer for Brooks and for the Johnson family, and remember them and all who have been deployed and serve our Nation at this tough and challenging time.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. COLLINS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

Mrs. CLINTON. Madam President, I come to the floor on very sad business, both for this body, for my State, and my country. We have just received word that Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan has passed away. For those of us who were privileged to know him, to work with him, to admire and respect him, this is a loss beyond my capacity to express.

Senator Moynihan for decades represented the highest ideals and values of the United States of America. A son of Hell's Kitchen in New York City, he rose to be a confidante and adviser to Presidents. He is responsible for many of the most important ideas and legislative programs that have improved the lives of people in New York, people here in Washington, DC, and our country and around the world.

I am very honored to hold the seat that Senator Moynihan held for so long and so well. Along with his wonderful wife Liz Moynihan, they have been great counselors and advisers to me personally. I will miss him greatly.

Sometimes when I sit here on the floor of the Senate, I wish that Senator Moynihan could be here in spirit as well as body, that his wise counsel could influence our decisionmaking, that he would remind us that what we do, what we say, what we vote for is not just for today, it is for all time. It goes down into the history books. It represents the judgments that we make. It truly displays the values that we claim to hold.

He understood that being a U.S. Senator was a precious trust. Anyone who ever heard him speak knows the experience of learning more than you ever thought possible in a short period of time. He could explain and expound on such a range of subjects that it took my breath away. I remember riding with him through western New York on a bus during the 1992 campaign and hearing the most exquisite disposition about the history of the Indian nations, the Revolutionary War, the geological formations. The love he had for New York and America was overwhelming and so obvious to anyone who spent more than a minute in his company.

He also held high standards about what we should expect from this great country of ours. He wanted us to keep looking beyond the short term, looking beyond the horizon, thinking about the next generation, understanding the big problems that confront us, having the courage to tackle what is not immediately popular, even not immediately understandable, because that is what we are charged to do in this deliberative body.

Senator Moynihan's scholarly undertakings also will stand the test of time.