

making the trip to Washington, DC and participating today in the opening prayer of the Senate.

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I have a short statement to make on our troops.

Very briefly, we have taken a period of time each morning to comment on the wonderful work and tremendous commitment and dedication our troops are displaying overseas for us, and we have had the opportunity to comment on the families at home, offering prayers and support for their children, and in many cases for their spouses and their parents as well. They know the men and women are fighting for liberty, democracy, and peace.

This morning, my thoughts and prayers are with the family of the soldier who died during Operation Iraqi Freedom, SP Brandon J. Rowe, Company C, 1-502nd Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, Air Assault, Fort Campbell, KY.

Two sentences caught my eye from the Army news release:

Specialist Rowe epitomizes the best of our country—a brave soldier—who exhibited courage, selfless service, and honor in abundance. His ultimate sacrifice has contributed immeasurably to the freedom and security of both Iraq and the world.

While liberating Najaf, the 101st Airborne has been met over the last 48 hours by grateful people waving and clapping hands and saying, "Good job."

Quoted yesterday in the Washington Post, LTC Chris Hughes, a battalion commander in the 1st Brigade:

We waited about an hour and a half, and the hair on the back of my neck began to stand up. The crowd got bigger and bigger, so we pulled back out. But it was like the liberation of Paris.

Our newspaper in Nashville, the Tennessean, reported yesterday that a soldier in the 101st will soon learn he is a new father—again showing the many dimensions of this war and its impact on families and the feelings families are expressing and sharing among themselves. SGT Chris Schornak's wife Robyn gave birth to Tristan James Schornak at 2:01 p.m. on Tuesday. He was born at NorthCrest Medical Center in Springfield. The mom and young Tristan are doing well and will soon be living with relatives in Franklin, KY.

Again, these are faces of our families and our troops, and to all of them our thoughts and prayers continue to go out.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10 a.m., with the time equally di-

vided between the Senator from Texas, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and the Democrat leader, or their designee.

The Senator from Colorado is recognized.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, Members of the Congress have been receiving reports on a daily basis on the conflict in Iraq. At these briefings, I report back to Members of the Congress and America that things have been going well, much better than many expected, in the war in Iraq.

What we have been getting out of these briefings is just how highly trained are our men and women in the Armed Forces and how the technological developments of this country have helped make their job easier on the battlefield. We have learned to appreciate their courage and commitment to protecting America's freedom.

Today marks the 14th day of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and the fight for freedom continues in the Middle East. Our brave members of the U.S. military have shown the entire world how truly committed the United States is to ending the dangerous regime in Iraq. By sacrificing their lives so those in Iraq can finally be allowed peace, coalition forces continue to courageously march toward Baghdad.

During the last 2 weeks, I, along with many of my colleagues, have continued to come down to the Senate floor daily to honor our troops and praise their valor. While we stand in the safety of the Capitol Building, our words will not be heard by those who are directly in harm's way, but the words are still needed.

It is important for us to continue to honor these men and women, some of whom will not come home, who fight for freedom and the safety and security of the United States of America. I would like at this time to honor some of those brave men and women from my home State of Colorado who this very day are being moved into the Persian Gulf.

The 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment as well as the 3rd Brigade Combat Team have been deployed from Fort Carson over the 3 weeks and continue to do so today. Many of these individuals have been waiting for the chance to stand shoulder to shoulder with their comrades already participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom. I salute them for their bravery.

It is clear that after all of the deployments from Fort Carson are completed, it will mark the biggest mobilization from the base since World War II. I sincerely hoped that the course of events that have led to the mobilization of soldiers not only from Colorado but those stationed all over the world would not have happened. But it was apparent from the beginning that our Armed Forces would need to be involved in the manner that they are now. And they have performed admi-

rably. I pray for a safe return for our troops and that this conflict can end as soon as possible.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the names of our military personnel who will not be returning home. I offer my condolences to those families whose sons and daughters have already been lost. To the families of LCpl Thomas Slocum and Cpl Randal Kent, I give my deepest and most sincere sympathies for the loss of their sons. In their passing, they have continued the valued Marine Corps tradition of esprit de corps, and I will continue to pray for you as you mourn your loss.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our Armed Forces both at home and overseas. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends. God bless America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding that the time is equally divided this morning; is that true?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. REID. We have a lot of speakers here. How much time does the minority have?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority has 10 minutes.

Mr. REID. And how long does the majority have?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Approximately 5 minutes.

Mr. REID. We have a problem right here to begin with.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, if I can just assure that we are covered.

Mr. REID. OK.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. We have Senator DAYTON and Senator CORNYN, and if there is any time left I will take it.

Mr. REID. I will yield whatever time needed to the Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I rise also to pay tribute today to the heroic men and women of our Armed Forces who are performing so well on behalf of our country in Iraq. Their courage, their patriotism, and their valor represent the finest traditions and the best values of the American military and of the country which they serve. They have fought brilliantly, they have fought bravely, and they have fought successfully. They have now advanced to within 10 miles of Baghdad. They have been victorious thus far. They will be victorious from now on. And they will be victorious in the end.

To the brave women and men who gave their lives in the service of their Nation, to their families and friends, the people they love and the people who love them, we express our heartfelt gratitude and our deepest sorrow and condolences. We are in awe of your courage, your heroism. As the families and friends of those fallen heroes who are your friends and neighbors, your coworkers and church members, we know that you have suffered the most grievous losses and must be suffering inestimable pain. Our hearts go out to

you. Our prayers are with you. We stand beside you ready to help in any way we can.

We say also to the families and friends of American soldiers wounded or captured or missing or still fighting or still deployed in Iraq, please let us know how we can support you and assist you during these difficult times. Our prayers are with you also for the swift recovery and safe return of all of our troops back to their country, their fellow citizens who are so proud and so grateful of them.

I also want to pay my respects to the military command responsible for the planning and execution of this engagement. Secretary Rumsfeld, Chairman Myers, the Chiefs, you have served our country and you continue to serve our country with great honor and distinction in carrying out your duties, your oaths of office to the best of your abilities. You are succeeding. You are winning this war. Some may not agree with everything you are doing. I don't agree myself on everything. But you have earned my utmost respect and admiration for your dedication and patriotic service to our country. You do not deserve the backstabbing, the second guessing, the carping, the Monday morning quarterbacking which has dogged your every decision. Former President Dwight Eisenhower once said:

Any high school kid can do better with a presidential decision with 20/20 hindsight than a president can at the time when he only has partial information and is operating by his wits.

It is all too easy for someone with a military background to sit in judgment in hindsight. I do not disagree with their constitutional right to do so. I dispute their judgment in doing so. I question their motives for doing so, as some appear to be vying to become the next network analyst or the next Geraldo.

As the saying goes, actions speak louder than words, and the actions of these brave men and women fighting on our behalf, winning on our behalf, speak loudly. They drown out, they overwhelm any naysayers of their conduct and decisions they are carrying out, which, as I say, will be victorious for our Nation and we owe them our inestimable gratitude.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, it is an honor to join my friend and distinguished colleague from Minnesota, on behalf of the people of Minnesota, to express our support for the courage and skill of our troops fighting at this hour in Iraq. As the majority leader noted when we began this session this morning, my prayers also are with those who have died and their families. May God watch over them. Folks who are out there should know, and their families should know, there are a lot of prayers in the Senate and a lot of pray-

ers in America now for our fighting men and women and those who have fallen.

I had a chance to talk to the family of PVT David Mahlke, a 19-year-old kid from Winona, MN. He graduated Winona High School in 2001. He was wounded, with the 3rd Infantry Division. He is recuperating, doing well. I was talking with his mom. She was waiting for a call from him. She said: If the call comes through, I am going to cut you off. And I said: Go right ahead, ma'am.

I want the Mahlkes and all the other families in Minnesota to know we are praying for them, we are behind them. As my distinguished colleague from Minnesota noted, this is not a partisan thing anymore. We are there. We are with them and so thankful they are there.

Over 100 years ago, Alexis de Toqueville said:

The strength of America is not in its government or even its economy, but the quality of its average citizens.

Never has this been more true than for the struggle for the freedom of Iraq. Every single American soldier, sailor, airman or woman in this conflict is a volunteer. How astounding that is. They stepped forward to risk their lives on behalf of the ideals and safety of the American people, and they are willingly, enthusiastically, and boldly laying down their lives for us.

In that we are grateful. They are not just willing to die for their principles and our principles, they are living for them. The skill and compassion and care being demonstrated by the troops in the field is America at its best. It is far from the scenario we all feared: that war would demonize America in the eyes of many.

I, too, have been frustrated and angered by the second-guessing and sniping by some members of the news media. I am reminded of the story of President Lincoln, who received a series of letters from a God-fearing woman who told him: Mr. President, God has told me we should move troops here and there, during the Civil War, and hire this general and fire this one.

Lincoln responded very briefly saying: Ma'am, I find it amazing, indeed, that the Lord Almighty has given you all the answers but has given me the job.

There is a time for legitimate debate in public and among our Nation's leaders. We had that. Resolutions approving the use of force were approved by decisive, bipartisan margins in the House and Senate. Legitimate protests in favor of diplomatic solutions continued. But in my mind, that all changed when the Commander in Chief sent young American men and women into battle.

I want to say a word to the rest of our citizens. In a previous war, there was the expression, "They also serve who only stand and wait." In my view, that does not apply now to those who simply sit and watch. It is good to be

informed but we have to do our jobs as Americans. Let's at times shut off the TV; let's go out there, roll up our sleeves, and make this a greater nation for the troops to come home to.

Ordinary citizens are winning this war and ordinary citizens in towns across Minnesota and America need to sacrifice and work hard, to use all their skills to get things done for America, right now, today.

I am also hopeful these events will have an effect on our work here in the Senate. We don't have Democrat units and we don't have Republican units. We don't have conservative or liberal generals. The political labels would seem silly and irrelevant in comparison to the importance of the task.

Maybe we could catch some of that spirit around here. The American people want solutions, not a partisan rugby match, and we should give them what they want.

Finally, let me close on a different note. Those of us in our Nation's Capitol these days are experiencing a stark irony. On one hand, there is a somber mood about the war, as we receive the reports of danger and sacrifice. But at the same time, the city of Washington is bursting with the beauty and hopefulness of spring. The cherry blossoms are in full bloom. They are famous all over the world. But these cherry blossoms have a tale of hope for us all in these times, and I will tell it very quickly.

The Washington cherry trees were a gift to the American people from the Emperor of Japan in the 1890s as an expression of friendship. In World War II, allied bombing of Tokyo resulted in the death of most of the cherry trees around the Emperor's palace. After the war ended, a group of Washingtonians took a set of cuttings from our trees here and brought them back to Japan to restore their trees. If you travel to Japan, you will see the trees which grew from Washington's tree which came here as a gift.

We are not fighting in Iraq for oil or territorial ambition. We are fighting to protect our own people in a world that has brought threats to our doorstep. We are fighting as the only hope for the freedom of the people of Iraq against their tyrant. Justice is being done. But what the world is about to see will have an even greater impact.

As we move to rebuild Iraq, the people of the world will see American generosity and ingenuity and values at their best. A dark cloud on the future is being removed and a new light is about to shine.

Let's do our part, my fellow Americans, and make this a better country today before we go to bed tonight, as a tribute to our brave men and women who are fighting for us around the clock. Our prayers are with them. Our support is with them. May God bless them all.

May God bless the United States of America.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MURKOWSKI). The time on the majority side has expired.

The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. I am happy to yield time to the distinguished Senator from Montana, who represents, among other things, the Marine Corps.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BURNS. I thank my good friend from Nevada. I am having a little trouble getting organized today. I will try to pick it up a little bit to the likings of the assistant minority leader.

I am glad my good friend from Minnesota, who is newly elected to this body—and, I will tell you right now, he is a contributor, and I think he has a great future here—did bring us back to reality. The city of Washington does have quite a lot of beauty. As the cherry blossoms are out and the blossoms start to open here, I always think: Every spring, no matter what the conditions are in the world, or the problems and trials of serving in a legislative body, or an economy that continues to struggle and is on the minds of all of us as is this situation we find ourselves in, in Iraq—every spring, as we look around this city, I just think it is God's picturesque way of reminding us of the Earth's renewal. It comes every spring just as a reminder that that is one institution that we haven't been able to change.

I have a resident of Montana who is at Walter Reed Army Hospital, Army SGT Charles Horgan. I haven't been able to get out and visit him yet. He is from Helena, MT. He is recovering out there from wounds received in Iraq. I am sure the hearts of everybody who shares our concerns about one life, one human, go out to him and his folks today.

Back in 1991 I had a chance to visit a Marine unit out in the desert. It was my old Marine outfit in which I served, F-212, 3rd Marine Division. But I served back in the stone age. These are the new warriors with new equipment, new technologies. I did that back in 1991.

The mindset and the American institution of the military and their enormous ability to withstand hardships for a principle and a way of life is almost above human imagination. As we were flying out in that desert, the commanding officer, Walt Boomer, General Boomer, called me. He said: Senator, they may complain a little bit that they are not getting mail.

I said: We will try and handle that. But if you figure we had 400,000 to 500,000 people in the Middle East, if everybody wrote a letter to every soldier, sailor, marine, coastguardsman, or airman over there, that is a lot of mail to handle per day, to try to get it out to the right people in a timely fashion.

But I found out that was not what their complaint was. They were out of tobacco. We finally helped that situation.

There is a long tradition of writing letters and sending care packages to

the troops stationed away from home, but the general public is urged not to send unsolicited mail, care packages, or donations to the service members now deployed in Iraq. The Department of Defense has set a strict policy of only family members sending mail and packages to their service members. So if you want to write to a person over there and he is not in your immediate family, we ask that not be done.

So this leaves many people at a loss when they want to help support the troops, to say thank you, but have no direct point of contact. We see that they are finding ways, through American imagination, to take care of that. Even without those care packages, there are many other efforts that can be made to support our troops in the field and also their families at home.

I have put together an information pamphlet, which is available in all my offices in the State of Montana, that includes national programs and local Montana programs set up to allow people to extend a helping hand to our soldiers but, more importantly, I think to provide support for their families at home. I call it Operation: Homefront. It is a program I have set up to easily and efficiently inform people about how they can help or contribute to this operation.

There is nothing better for the morale of our troops. We understand the sacrifices they are making. We understand where they find themselves. And they also understand us who are trying to support them and their families any way that we can.

It is also comforting for those in the field to know their loved ones back home are being taken care of when push comes to shove.

I think Operation: Homefront will be an excellent tool for getting information out to people. Supporting our troops is something we think about every day. We appreciate their risks and the sacrifices they are making.

There is also one other reminder to my colleagues. If you are concerned about what the war is going to cost, and you want to participate and help us out in just a little way, there is a way. Back in 1991, we offered a brand new bond on the market. We called it the Patriot Bond. And if you want to buy a bond for your child or your grandchild, or whomever, I think you can go to wherever they sell these bonds—I don't know where they sell them; I have a couple of them—and buy your grandchild a bond and help us out.

Just because there is combat today, the mission will not be over until the Iraqi people are liberated and an interim government is set up so freedom can be established to allow the Iraqi people to grow and to taste the fruits of freedom and to improve their quality of life. Every life in the world is deserving of that.

So if you are inclined to do so, go inquire about a Patriot Bond. I think it would sure help us out, and it also would, I think, maybe help you out also.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I seek recognition to honor two Virginia Marines: Staff Sgt. Donald C. May of Richmond and Sgt. Michael Vernon Lalush of Troutville, who were among the first of our servicemen killed in action in Operation Iraqi Freedom; and to express gratitude, on behalf of the Senate, for their service to our Nation. The American people, I am certain, join in expressing their prayers and compassion to the families they leave behind.

The media in Virginia have given the following important coverage:

Staff Sergeant Donald C. May, Jr. was so inspired by the military service given in past years by his father and mother that he followed in their footsteps and began to chart a course for himself with military training. He was fulfilling that dream when he was tragically killed on Tuesday when his tank went off a bridge into the Euphrates River.

He leaves behind: his mother, Brenda May; his wife, Deborah; son, Jack; stepdaughter, Mariah; and another son yet to be born.

He was a member of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets from age 12 to 18 and was also a police explorer.

Upon graduation from Meadowbrook High School in 1990, he joined the United States Marine Corps, and served 4 years in the military police. He finished boot camp just in time to serve in the last few months of the first Gulf War in 1991, involving security over Iraqi prisoners.

After the first Gulf War, Staff Sergeant May left the Marines for 2 years, serving as a reservist, after which time he returned to active duty as a tank commander, just like his dad, who is now deceased.

During his second deployment to Iraq, Staff Sergeant May was in the 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division, based at Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, CA.

Sergeant Michael Lalush always seemed to have a knack for fixing things. He always worked with his hands on equipment, tinkering with lawnmowers and cars. As a teenager, he brought home to his own garage a pink 1965 Volkswagen Beetle, rebuilt it and in no time was driving it around the neighborhood.

Sergeant Lalush was challenged in the military and had a great longing to serve his country. After graduating from Lord Botetourt High School, he left for boot camp.

Tragically, Sgt. Lalush's short military career ended on Sunday when he was killed in a Huey helicopter crash while serving in a Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron in southern Iraq. He had been deployed from the Marine Corps Air Station at Camp Pendleton, CA.

Reportedly, in his final e-mail message that the family received last Wednesday, Sergeant Lalush said he

was finally discovering his dream in Iraq. He told his parents that he was finally using his skills to help people.

Sgt. Michael Lalush leaves behind his parents, David and Rebecca Lalush.

Mr. President, we have lost two exceptional sons of Virginia. Their courage and unwavering service to our great country will not be forgotten. As we think of their families in mourning, let us not forget that these fine young men gave the ultimate sacrifice so that every American could continue to live in freedom.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is now closed.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO SUPPORT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OPERATIONS IN IRAQ FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 762, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 762) making supplemental appropriations to support Department of Defense operations in Iraq, Department of Homeland Security, and Related Efforts for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Stevens amendment No. 435, to increase the National Debt Ceiling of the United States.

Reid amendment No. 440, to provide critical funding to safeguard nuclear weapons and nuclear material in the United States and around the world.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 472

(Purpose: To set aside \$30,000,000 for the Department of Homeland Security for research and development and deployment of technology to protect commercial aircraft from the threat posed by man-portable air defense systems)

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER], for herself and Mr. SCHUMER, proposes an amendment numbered 472:

In chapter 6 of title I, add at the end the following:

GENERAL PROVISIONS, THIS CHAPTER

SEC. 601. Of the amounts appropriated by this chapter under the heading "DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT" under the heading

"COUNTERTERRORISM FUND", \$30,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Federal Aviation Administration, for research and development on, and for the initial deployment of, technology to protect commercial aircraft from the threat posed by man-portable air defense systems in order to reduce the costs of such technology and to provide for the adaptation of military countermeasure systems to commercial aircraft.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I thank the clerk.

If my colleague would like to make a statement at this time, I would be happy to yield, without losing my right to the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I thank the Senator from California. My only reason for standing right now is to inquire of the Senator from California if it is possible to have a time limit on her amendment.

Mrs. BOXER. I absolutely will agree. I am waiting for my coauthor, CHUCK SCHUMER. As soon as we get word as to how much time he would need, yes, we would definitely want to do that.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I do thank the Senator from California. It is our hope that we will be able to get all of the amendments that are in line now completed in time to start voting by 11:50, following the Democratic caucus. So I appreciate her courtesy. And whatever is possible to enter into a time agreement, I would like to explore that. I thank her for her courtesy.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank my friend. And, yes, as soon as we get word, I will ask for a quorum call, and then we will make an agreement on the time.

Whether we speak about this for a half hour or 2 days, this is a very important amendment. I think one of the things we learned after 9/11, tragically, is that we have to take warnings very seriously—our intelligence agencies, we, as a Congress, the administration, all of us working together.

We know now that there is a threat out there that is very real. We have constructed an amendment that does not add any money to this bill but merely says that out of the funds that have been allotted for homeland defense, that \$30 million be made available immediately for research and development of countermeasures that could be taken should a shoulder-fired missile be aimed at a commercial aircraft.

I want to read to you the latest statement of the FBI. This is the FBI warning, which really must not go unheeded if we are to do our job:

... given al-Qaeda's demonstrated objective to target the U.S. airline industry, its access to U.S. and Russian-made MANPAD systems—

MANPAD stands for shoulder fired missiles—

and recent apparent targeting of U.S.-led military forces in Saudi Arabia, law enforcement agencies in the United States should

remain alert to the potential use of MANPADs against U.S. aircraft.

How clear could this be? If this body turns its back on a threat that our commercial aircraft are facing right now, it would be a very sad day, indeed.

I see Senator SCHUMER has approached the floor. What I will do is ask that a quorum call be put in place so I might discuss with him a time-frame he will need on this amendment we have worked so hard on together.

I 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. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

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

Mr. STEVENS. After conferring with the Senator from California, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from California control the time until 10 minutes of 11 and that I control the time thereafter until 5 minutes after 11.

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

The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I will take it from the top because this is such a crucial amendment. The amendment I am offering with Senator SCHUMER will provide \$30 million that is already in the bill—we are not adding new money—for the Department of Homeland Security to research and develop and to initially deploy countermeasure systems for commercial aircraft to combat the threat of manned portable shoulder-launched missile systems.

I have held one of these missiles. I am a little person. They are very lightweight. They can be easily used. They have been used in the past. As I say, this \$30 million is not new money. I hope, therefore, it will not be opposed on the other side of the aisle.

The chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee, a Republican, said just yesterday that the threat of these shoulder-fired missiles being aimed at a commercial aircraft in the United States or one of our assets abroad "keeps me up at night." This is a Republican chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee who came into this debate, in his own words, not convinced that we needed to move on this threat. But after a secret briefing—and I was there—said this threat "keeps me up at night."

Shoulder-fired missiles, such as the SA-7 and stinger missile, are available on the black market for \$25,000 to \$80,000 each. Most can be used with very little training and they take just minutes to fire. As I said, I have held one of these missiles in my hand. Almost anybody could do the same and fire one.

Nearly 30 guerrilla and terrorist groups are in possession of these weapons, including al-Qaida. We will show a chart of the terrorist groups, the guerrilla groups we believe have these