

sense of who is out there serving, the men and women we honor.

I asked Mrs. Goddard: Can you tell us what it was that your son did to receive the Bronze Star? In the picture that we saw, there was no real recognition. It was just an acknowledgment that this young man had received the honor.

She does not know. Her comment to me was: It really does not matter what he was recognized for, but whatever it is, we are exceptionally proud. We cannot wait until he gets home and he can sit around the dinner table and tell us all that he has gone through.

She said he is a very humble young man and does not like to tout his accomplishments. She says he is probably going to be embarrassed over all of the hoopla that is going on right now, but there is good reason for hoopla. It is still very sketchy right now, but in referencing several of the newspaper accounts, we understand that General Franks awarded the Bronze Star for valor to two soldiers who had fought in the battle for Najaf. SGT James Ward led the team that stormed the military compound on the south side of the city, and SGT Lucas Goddard spearheaded the assault on the local airfield, taking direct enemy fire.

In further newspaper accounts, as best we have been able to tell, we understand they had captured a compound of weapons while under fire by AK-47s, grenade launchers, and rocket-propelled grenades. So our brave young man from Sitka did what he was trained to do and was recognized for it. He will be going home to Sitka to celebrate with his family.

I need to share a mother's intuition with the Chair and my colleagues. Mrs. Goddard said she woke up on Monday sensing that she was going to hear from her son that day.

She said: You know, you just sometimes get that intuition; I just felt something.

She had not heard from her son for upward of a month prior to this. That afternoon she received a phone call from a reporter asking: What do you think? We have seen the newspaper account.

Well, that was not a direct contact from her son necessarily, but she said: You follow that mother's instinct. I knew that I was going to hear from him today. And that is what she heard.

So to all of the men and women from Sitka, from all over my State, from all over the country, our hearts go out to you. We are extremely proud of all of you at this moment, like Sergeant Goddard, who so bravely is defending our freedom and our democracy. We must acknowledge all of our men and women for the sacrifices they are making for America's freedom, our freedom, the freedom of this Chamber, and the freedom of millions of people all over the world as we are protected by those who are serving in our Armed Forces.

Sergeant Goddard is an example to all of us. It is this rock solid courage

that we think about. This is what our military is all about, unfaltering bravery. So the recognition Sergeant Goddard received is one that we look to, we say thank you, and God bless.

I am going to share one last communication from Sergeant Goddard. This was in an e-mail message he sent to his family some months ago. It is a testament of his good will, and I believe his honorable service to our country. In his message, he stated:

I will be thinking of you all while over there. It is because of people like you that we fight the tyrants who stand in the way of freedom and peace.

So to Sergeant Goddard and all of those men and women who are serving us for our freedom, we thank you.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that morning business be extended until the hour of 12 p.m., with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

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

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore (Ms. MURKOWSKI). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THOMAS. We are in morning business?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. That is correct.

ENERGY

Mr. THOMAS. Madam President, I take a moment to talk about at least one of the pending matters. Certainly our focus is, and should be, on what is happening in Iraq, supporting our troops, so we can support whatever needs to be done now as this war, hopefully, comes to a successful conclusion. In the meantime, of course, while we are aware we are not yet at that point, we have to continue with strong support and praise of our men and women.

In addition, business goes on. Despite our interest in terrorism, despite our concern and support for Iraq, our lives continue. An important issue is energy. We have been through this a number of times before, and the unrest in the

Middle East has something to do with it, although it is not the exclusive reason. We need to find ways, as we look forward, to supply ourselves with our electricity needs.

Energy is at times taken for granted. We do not pay attention to it. Lights, automobiles, food—everything has to do with energy. As we all know, we depend on imports for 60 percent of our energy. Availability is threatened, from time to time, but economically we are better off producing here.

We are in the process of working on an energy policy. Last year, Members may recall, we began with no energy policy. For various reasons—organizations, committees did not get to the work—we had no policy. When we talk policy, we are talking broader than the details; we are talking about a vision, where we need to be and the best way to get there over a period of time. I know how difficult it is because we deal with issues before the Senate on a daily basis. However, the most important function of the Congress and the Senate is to make policy. Others do the details and the implementation. Our emphasis ought to be on where we want to go, where we want to be over a period of time and, in broad terms, how we get there.

We are now in the process, I am pleased to say, of coming up with an energy policy. Hopefully, it will be a broad policy that will include what we think our needs will be and then talk about how we get there. The policy will include, certainly, research. There will be new ways of generating energy for ourselves. We will be using different kinds of energy over time, including hydrogen. Certainly we will be looking at conservation. There is no question there are many ways we can save in the amount of energy we each use; we can reduce our demands on energy. There will be emphasis on alternative means, including hydrogen cars, and perhaps hydrogen for other purposes as well.

Most importantly, in the short term, we will look at increasing domestic production of energy. We have the resources in our country to have considerably more energy made available than we do now. When we do it, for instance, in the case of coal, one of the largest resources of energy we have, we have to continue to look for ways to produce it in a clean fashion so we can have good climate, clean skies.

I am hopeful we can continue to emphasize the future, where we need to be, how we are going to get there. We are going to have to recognize things have changed, for instance, in the area of electricity. Years ago, certainly, generators were also distributors of what they generated in their own retail markets. Now we have changed that and 40 percent of the generation is done by so-called marketing generators that do not distribute but sell it wholesale around the country. Obviously, to make that work, we have to have transmission and transportation. That

will be something we need as a national grid to be able to move electricity from the source to the area of consumption. That has changed. That is different than in the past. We will find ways to have cars and trucks that are more conservative in their use of gasoline.

I am pleased we are moving forward. I just left a hearing where we discussed working on that after our recess, that hopefully we can come together with a sensible policy. I hope we do not get tangled up in every detail but, again, have this oriented toward looking out over a period of time as to how we will provide the necessary energy resources and use them in a clean manner. I look forward to that.

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

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I come to the floor to pay tribute to 14 young Americans who have been killed in the Iraqi war. All of these young men are either from California or based out of California. I have already eulogized 20 individuals from California, either born there, raised there, or based there. So we are now talking about 34 of my constituents who have been killed.

We pray that the killing is coming to an end. I am sure it cannot come soon enough for all Americans. We pray the POWs will be returned safely. We pray for stability. We pray that we can bring our young men and women home, get them out of harm's way, and share the burden of the rebuilding of Iraq with many nations, so that the people of Iraq can realize their hopes and dreams.

SGT Michael V. Lalush, age 23, grew up in Sunnyvale, CA, before his family moved to Virginia in the mid-1990s. He was killed on March 30 in a helicopter crash in southern Iraq. He joined the Marines 2 weeks after graduating from high school in 1997. He was assigned to the Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron, Marine Aircraft Group 39, Marine Corps Air Station, Camp Pendleton, CA. He is survived by his parents, a sister in Los Angeles, and grandparents in Folsom, CA.

SGT Brian D. McGinnis, age 23, was assigned to the Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron, Marine Aircraft Group 39, Marine Corps Air Station, Camp Pendleton, CA. He was from St. Georges, DE. He is a graduate of William Penn High School in New Castle, DE, where he was a star member of the wrestling squad. He was killed March 30 in a helicopter crash in southern

Iraq. He is survived by his wife, who is living at Camp Pendleton in California, and he is also survived by his parents.

PFC Christian D. Gurtner, age 19, was assigned to the 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center, Twenty-Nine Palms, CA. He was killed April 2 as a result of a noncombat weapons accident in southern Iraq. He is from Ohio City, OH. In March, 2002, while still a high school senior at Van Wert High School, he enlisted in the Marines. His grandfather fought in World War II, and a great-grandfather served in World War I. He also had relatives who fought in Vietnam. His friends have said that Christian loved bowling, the Atlanta Braves, and Ohio State football.

CPL Erik H. Silva, age 22, from Holtville, CA, was killed in action in Iraq Thursday. Erik was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, based at Camp Pendleton, CA. He graduated from Holtville High, where he played the trumpet, was a drum major, and a member of the varsity golf team. He wanted to pursue a career in law enforcement. He is survived by his mother, living in Chula Vista, CA; two brothers; and a sister, who is currently serving in the Navy.

CPT Benjamin W. Sammis, age 29, was assigned to the Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron, Marine Aircraft Group 39, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Camp Pendleton, CA. He was killed in action on April 4 when his AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter crashed during combat operations in Iraq. His hometown was Rehoboth, MA. He was a sailor, an Eagle Scout, a military school graduate, and a career marine, who had yearned to fly helicopters and jets since he was 10 years old. He is survived by a wife, his parents, and two brothers.

PFC Chad E. Bales Metcalf, age 20, was assigned to the 1st Transportation Support Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, CA. He was killed on April 3 in a vehicle accident during convoy operations in Iraq. A native of Texas, Chad was born in Lubbock and grew up in Coahoma, where he played high school football. He is survived by his parents, two half sisters, and two half brothers.

CPL Mark A. Evin, age 21, joined the Marines in 2000. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Twentynine Palms, CA. He was killed in action on April 3 during a firefight in central Iraq. Corporal Evin was from Burlington, VT. In the last letter he sent to his mom, he mentioned that he decided to go to college to study international relations.

CWO Eric A. Smith, age 41, lived in San Diego, CA, for a few years in the eighties. During his time in San Diego, he became acquainted with some Air Force pilots who sparked his interest in becoming a pilot. He joined the Army in 1987. Chief Warrant Officer

Smith was killed when his Black Hawk helicopter crashed in central Iraq on Wednesday, April 2. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, Hunter Army Airfield, GA. He grew up in Rochester, NY. Eric played soccer at Brighton High School and graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology.

CAPT Travis A. Ford, age 30, lived in Oceanside, CA, with his wife and their 1-year-old daughter. He was assigned to the Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron, Marine Aircraft Group 39, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Camp Pendleton, CA. He was killed in action on April 4 when his AH-1 Super Cobra helicopter crashed during combat operations in Iraq. He grew up in Nebraska.

PVT Devon D. Jones, age 19, was from San Diego, CA. He was killed in a vehicle accident on April 4 in Iraq. Private Jones was assigned to the 41st Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Stewart, GA. He graduated from San Diego's Lincoln High School in 2002. He planned to become an English teacher and serve as a teaching intern at Kennedy Elementary School located across the street from his high school.

SGT Duane R. Rios, age 25, was assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division based at Camp Pendleton, CA. He was from Griffith, IN. He was killed on April 4 during a firefight in central Iraq. Sergeant Rios was a 1990 graduate of Griffith High School in Indiana. He is survived by his wife living at Camp Pendleton and his parents.

1stSGT Edward Smith, age 39, was from Vista, CA. He joined the Marines when he was 17. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division based at Camp Pendleton, CA. He also served as an Anaheim, CA, reserve police officer. He died April 5 as a result of wounds received in combat in central Iraq. Edward was born and raised on the south side of Chicago. He graduated in 1982 from Cosmopolitan Preparatory School. He is survived by his wife and three children.

CPL Jesus Martin Antonio Medellin, age 21, was assigned to the 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, CA. He was from Fort Worth, TX. Corporal Medellin was killed on April 7 in central Iraq after his vehicle was hit by enemy fire. He was active in his church. He loved his grandma's tortillas, and he enjoyed spending time with his 11-year-old brother.

PFC Juan Guadalupe Garza, Jr., age 20, was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, CA. He was born in Michigan. Private First Class Garza was killed in action on April 8 in central Iraq.

Mr. President, 34 men who were either from California or based in California have died in the Iraqi war. The people of California, and I know the people of the whole country, mourn their loss and all the other losses we