

that they did not have much time to meet people's expectations. That time is almost up, he believes.

"I'm not threatening you with another Vietnam—God forbid," he said. "I'm just trying to get help for the people before something happens."

Something is already happening, of course. Out here, as across much of Iraq, the attacks on Americans are stepping up. Colonel Ingram said his company is being attacked at least once a day, fortunately by men who are not very good shots.

Colonel Ingram blames the Iraqis for most of the area's problems, saying it is they who have torn down the power lines he fixed, they who are robbing one another. "The U.S. is not the problem, it's the solution," he said.

But he too wonders about the slow pace of rebuilding. "I would have expected the U.S., the biggest country in the world, to say here's the water purification system, here's the big generator," he said.

As of the other day, neither Mr. Dari nor Colonel Ingram had ever had any contact with the American-led civilian administration ostensibly governing Iraq, although Mr. Dari oversees an area that is home to 900,000 people.

So they soldier on alone, often seeking progress in vain. The council tried to distribute generators found at a Republican Guard camp to villages, but found that many of the village "representatives" were driving out of the camp and selling the generators. Others were being set upon by angry mobs wanting the generators for themselves.

American soldiers were deployed to keep order, but in the heat and chaos their tempers frayed. They broke windshields and cursed at Iraqis, further shrinking the reservoir of good will.

Mr. Dari said he received 10 to 12 complaints a day about weapons, cars or relatives taken by the Americas. One man came to report that American soldiers had taken away his deaf relative a month ago for having a picture of Saddam Hussein in his house, and that he had not been seen since. Officials from an Islamic charity said the Americans had confiscated their car and raided their office—the left both unsecured, giving looters free rein.

Then there are the small problems. The woman who is illegally squatting in a government building (American soldier told Mr. Dari they could not evict her unless she threatened someone; property rights were not their "purview.") The two council members whom the council dismissed for corruption. The effort to find the American commander with the authority to sign a contract for garbage collection.

Mr. Dari is just old enough to remember when the British had an air base just west of here. They told Iraqis they had come to liberate them from the Ottomans, he recalled, and they stayed 40 years.

"I hope history isn't repeating itself," he said, and pressed his temples as if hoping to make the impatient men at both elbows disappear.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent that following the vote in relation to the Sessions amendment, which is amendment No. 1202, the legislative branch appropriations bill be read a third time and the Senate then proceed to a vote on the passage of the bill with

no intervening action or debate; provided further that immediately following that vote the Senate proceed to vote on the passage of the military construction appropriations bill, again with no further intervening action or debate; provided further that no further amendments or motions or points of order be in order to either bill.

I further ask unanimous consent that following the votes on passage of the two bills, the Senate then insist on its respective amendments, request conferences with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate for both bills.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for morning business.

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

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I have been trying to get some time to pay tribute to some of my constituents, military personnel, who were killed in Iraq since the war was officially declared over. I wanted to tie that into my vote for the Biden amendment on the State Department bill, which called for the President to consider asking NATO and the United Nations to share the burden with our troops on the ground. I was hoping it would be a little stronger because I believe that is what ought to happen. I have said that for a very long time now. At least, it is a step in the right direction.

We are losing too many of our people. I want to honor and remember 14 young Americans who were from California, or were based in California, and who have died since the war was declared over by President Bush.

We are losing too many of our people. Today, I want to honor and remember 14 young Americans who were from California or were based in California and who have died since the war officially ended.

Marine PFC Jose F. Gonzalez Rodriguez, age 19, died May 12 in Iraq. He was assigned to the 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, California. He was from Norwalk, California.

Marine CPL Jakub H. Kowalik, age 21, was killed May 12 in Iraq. He was assigned to the 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, California. He was from Schaumburg, Illinois.

Marine CPL Douglas Jose Marecoreyes, age 28, was killed on May 18 in Iraq. He was assigned to the 4th Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, California. He was from Chino, California.

Marine CPT Andrew David Lamont, age 31, was killed on May 19 in a heli-

copter accident in Iraq. He was stationed at Camp Pendleton, California, and was from Eureka, California.

Marine LCpl Jason William Moore, age 21, was killed on May 19 in a helicopter accident in Iraq. He was assigned to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Camp Pendleton, California. He was from San Marcos, California.

Marine 1LT Timothy Louis Ryan, age 30, was killed on May 19 in a helicopter accident in Iraq. He was assigned to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Camp Pendleton, California. He was from Aurora, Illinois.

Marine SSgt Aaron Dean White, age 27, was killed on May 19 in a helicopter accident in Iraq. He was assigned to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Camp Pendleton, California. He was from Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Marine Sgt Kirk Allen Straseskie, age 23, was killed on May 19 during an attempt to rescue victims of a helicopter accident in Iraq. He was assigned to the 4th Marine Regiment, Camp Pendleton, California. He was from Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.

Marine Sgt Jonathan W. Lambert, age 28, died on June 1 as a result of injuries sustained in an accident on May 26 in southern Iraq. He was assigned to the 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, California. He was from New Site, Mississippi. He is survived by his wife, a 2-year-old daughter, his parents, a sister, and two grandparents.

Army Sgt Atanacio Haro Marin Jr., age 27, was killed by enemy fire on June 3 in Iraq. He was attached to the 16th Field Artillery Regiment at Fort Hood, Texas. He was from Baldwin Park, California. He joined the National Guard after he graduated from high school. Following his service with the National Guard, he transferred to the Army.

Marine PFC Ryan R. Cox, age 19, was killed on June 15 in Iraq. He was stationed at Twenty-nine Palms, California. Hew was from Derby, Kansas.

Army SP Paul T. Nakamura, age 21, was killed on June 19 when his ambulance was struck by a grenade in Iraq. He was from Sante Fe Springs, California. He was attached to the 437th Medical Company, based in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Army SP Andrew Chris, age 25, was killed on June 25 in Iraq. He was assigned to Company B, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Georgia. Before he joined the Army, he lived for several years in California, most of them in the San Diego area. He planned to teach high school history when he completed his military career.

Marine Cpl Travis J. Bradachnall, age 21, was killed on July 2 near the city of Karbala, Iraq. He was assigned to the Combat Service Support Group 11, Camp Pendleton, California. He was from Oregon.

Mr. President, 55 individuals who were from California or based in California have died while serving our country in Iraq.

The people of California, as well as all Americans, mourn their loss. May

these beautiful young Americans rest in peace. I also continue to pray for those who have been wounded in this conflict. I wish them the very best as they recuperate from their injuries.

I hope that all of our brave young women and men serving abroad will return home safely. They deserve to be relieved soon. Many have been there much longer than they anticipated. Their families need them.

They face an extremely dangerous situation. Many say they are more fearful now than they were in the height of the war.

I agree with those who are calling for the peacekeeping troops to be an international force. That would ease the burden on our men and women in uniform and would also make them less of a target.

There is no reason that this shouldn't be done as soon as possible so that I and others do not have to come to the Senate floor for the purpose of delivering painful and heartbreaking eulogies.

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

IN MEMORIAM OF EUGENE AUGUSTINE JENKINS, JR. OF MARYLAND

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I would like to notice the passing this week of Eugene Augustine Jenkins, Jr. of Maryland, a loyal Senate staff member and legal counsel to several senators over the course of almost four decades. Gene Jenkins came to the Senate in 1953 after serving in the Air Force as an Assistant Judge Advocate General from 1951 to 1953, and after receiving bachelor and law degrees from Georgetown University. He worked for Senators J. Glenn Beall and Charles McC. Mathias of Maryland, Senator Winston Prouty of Vermont and Senator Roman Hruska of Nebraska.

During his long years of service, Gene Jenkins garnered a reputation not only as a fine lawyer but also as the most meticulous historian and archivist that a Senator could hire to prepare their historical records and papers. A Senator who hired Gene Jenkins would have to hid the fact by hiding Jenkins' office because Jenkins' reputation was so well known that if a Senator had hired him, it clearly signaled that the Senator was about to retire.

A member of the family that once owned Jenkins Hill, which we now call Capitol Hill, Gene Jenkins not only served the Senate modestly but he was a public servant and good citizen in the truest sense, dedicating himself to numerous voluntary organizations, including his beloved Society of the Cincinnati and the Stewards of Georgetown. He was devoted to his church and volunteered for many years with Mother Theresa's Sisters of Charity. He will be buried this coming Monday at St. Joseph' Parish in southern Maryland, one of the oldest Roman Catholic

churches in North America, near his family home in Pomfret where the Jenkins family has been buried for generations—a final resting place befitting a historian. May he rest in peace.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, earlier this week, I voted in favor of invoking cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 11, the Patients First Act of 2003. My vote was not an endorsement of S. 11 as it was introduced in the Senate. In fact, I have concerns about various aspects of the bill—including the \$250,000 cap on noneconomic damages—and I anticipate supporting amendments to S. 11 if the Senate has an opportunity to fully debate this legislation.

However, I do believe that reform of the medical liability system should be part of a comprehensive response to surging medical malpractice premiums that endanger Americans' access to quality medical care by causing doctors to leave certain communities or cease practicing medicine altogether. For this reason, I voted for cloture on S. 11 in an effort to move the debate forward.

I commend Senator FEINSTEIN of California for working with the majority leader to craft a bipartisan proposal for reform, and I am hopeful that they will revive their discussions in the near future.

SYRIA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I wish to discuss S. 982, the Syria Accountability Act. Senator SANTORUM and I introduced this legislation on May 1. In just over 2 months, this bill has received 63 cosponsors.

After discussing this issue with Senator LUGAR, the chairman of the Senator Foreign Relations Committee, Senator SANTORUM and I have decided against offering this legislation as an amendment to the State Department authorization bill.

Senator LUGAR has agreed to hold a hearing in his committee on the issue of Syria in the near future. I am very grateful for his cooperation. The Syria Accountability Act would expand U.S. diplomatic and economic sanctions against Syria unless a certification can be made that Syria no longer supports terrorism, has withdrawn from Lebanon, and has ended its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction.

The legislation does not in any way advocate the use of force against Syria. The goal is to give the President and the Secretary of State the ability to exert economic and political leverage on Syria because of the serious policy concerns we have with the Syrian government.

It is well known that terrorist organizations like Hizballah, Hamas, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine maintain offices, training camps, and other facilities on Syrian territory and in areas of Lebanon occu-

pled by the Syrian armed forces. This bill addresses this issue by confronting the Government of Syria in a diplomatic way that shows the seriousness of our concerns.

The Syria Accountability Act of 2003 would impose various sanctions on Syria, including a prohibition on the export of defense and dual-use items. In addition, the act requires the President to impose two or more of the following sanctions: 1, prohibiting the export of products of the U.S. other than food and medicine to Syria, 2, prohibiting U.S. businesses from investing or operating in Syria, 3, restricting Syrian diplomats in Washington, DC and at the United Nations to travel only within a 25-mile radius of Washington, DC or the United Nations, respectively, 4, reducing U.S. diplomatic contacts with Syria, and 5, blocking transactions in any property in which the Government of Syria has any interest.

The President is authorized to waive any or all of these five sanctions if it is in the national security interest of the United States. It is imperative that we hold all nations that are responsible for the proliferation of international terrorism and regional instability in the Middle East fully accountable for their actions. If we do not, the credibility of our antiterrorism efforts diminishes, along with our chances for victory over terrorism and for truly positive change in the Middle East. I thank the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee for his assistance.

HONORING OUR VIETNAM VETERANS ON JULY FOURTH

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize and applaud VFW Post 2164 of Wheaton, IL for sponsoring the Moving Wall in Wheaton during its Independence Day celebrations from June 30 to July 6 this year. I had the honor of marching in the Wheaton July 4th parade last Friday and viewing the Moving Wall. I was especially impressed by the community's tribute to fallen Vietnam veterans that was delivered at the parade reviewing stand.

The Moving Wall is a half-sized replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial here in Washington. The Memorial was dedicated in 1982 in honor of the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in the Vietnam War. The black granite wall, engraved with the names of those who gave their lives and those who remain missing, serves as a somber reminder of the costs of war in American lives and treasure.

The idea of a moving wall was conceived by Vietnam veteran John Devitt while attending the Vietnam Veterans Memorial dedication in 1982. Devitt's idea was deeply personal. He had been out of work when the wall was dedicated and had made the trip with financial help from family and friends. "There were millions of people who would never be able to come to Washington," he later explained: "I wanted