

price fixing. What has happened is the world demand is monstrous, and the cartel and others that are not part of it want to hold supply down to let prices go up.

And what do we do? We sit here in the U.S. Congress, wring our hands, and complain and worry and talk about President Bush needing a plan. Look, he gave us a plan. If you want to argue about how he did it, go ahead, but look at it and see what it will do. For the most part, the things in that plan are exactly what America needs. We need to maximize our own production of oil. It will not be sufficient, but we can do some things. We need to maximize the production of natural gas. We need to maximize the potential use of coal. We need to build every alternative into our national plan. Wind energy and solar energy need the incentives that are required. And, yes, in the end we have to put some incentives in to get started with nuclear again. But we do not have to have all of these. We need the basics. You cannot even get those done.

So from my standpoint, I hope we will quit blaming, quit wringing our hands, quit talking, especially on the other side of the aisle, about what we need to do, when, in fact, they are denying the very things they say we need to do by not voting for the things they are talking about. In fact, I think we could go through the RECORD and find that many on the other side have gotten up and made speeches about what we need to do, and you could go down and tick them off, and most of them are in the Energy bill. Most of the things they talk about are in the Energy bill, but for some reason they would rather talk about it than vote for it. They would rather talk about it than offer amendments and get the thing going.

I think what we ought to do soon is offer a bill and offer a unanimous consent suggestion that we put it up here and we have 10 amendments on each side and then we proceed to vote. I think that would be a fair way to handle the energy crisis of America. It would say, quit fooling around. You get 10 amendments. That ought to be enough to get your purposes out there. We get 10. Then it is over with, and we vote. But I am sure if you tried that, every excuse in the world would be forthcoming. Nobody will say: We need an energy bill. Let's do something. They will say: Oh, no, it doesn't have this. There is a chance, a risk we will get hurt. They won't take care of this and they won't take care of that and we will get nowhere.

So I close by saying I was also privileged to hear the President speak this morning. The Senator from Texas talked about it. I, frankly, have nothing but admiration for his fortitude, his strength, and his determination. I think if the United States and its people can quickly assess the blame with reference to the prisons and get on with letting our President and the military people stabilize Iraq and let

them begin to decide their future as free people who do not have to worry about getting killed, the sooner we can let that happen, the sooner America will be back on the right track. But I am not sure that everybody in this country wants to get that over.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. DOMENICI. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have 1 additional minute.

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

Mr. DOMENICI. Madam President, I close by saying I would hope that as we prepare to go out for recess, everybody in this body will examine their conscience, examine their positions, and that maybe they can come back and say: Let's sit down. Let's get an energy bill. Let's get the maximum kind of flexibility for production of alternatives in this country. Let's see if we can't make the American electric energy grid more powerful, stronger, more reliable, and see that it can grow and prosper.

It is our future. How we energize it is our challenge. We cannot do it with natural gas alone. We have to have alternatives. That is what we had proposed. We must decide that we are going to try. I chose this committee—left the Budget Committee—because I knew how important this was, but, frankly, I never thought there would be so many people who wanted to make it so hard for us to get an energy policy as has happened. I could not believe it, as a veteran Senator. Frankly, I am amazed there are still those on the other side who want to blame somebody, want to tell us what we ought to do but do not want to vote for anything.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, as Senator DOMENICI prepares to leave the Senate floor, I thank him for his tenacity and his earnest desire to lead us to a balanced energy policy. I think he knows there are plenty of us on this side who do want to reach the right balance, and I have enjoyed trying to provide a little bit of that balance.

Mr. BIDEN. Madam President, will the Senator yield for a unanimous consent request?

Mr. CARPER. I am happy to yield.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. BIDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Democratic side be given an additional 10 minutes of morning business, with the time equally divided between Senator CARPER and myself. Before the Chair acts on this request, I am told it has been cleared by the Republican side.

Mr. DOMENICI. We have no objection.

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

Mr. DOMENICI. Madam President, I wonder if the Senator will yield for 30 seconds?

Mr. CARPER. I yield.

Mr. DOMENICI. Madam President, I say to the Senator, I heard your remarks, and I do want to say to the Senator, that while I do not know your overall feelings about an energy bill, I will say on a couple of very difficult issues that I think are very important that were contentious—and many people on your side did not think we ought to do—you stood tall because you understand that we need diversification and you are not afraid to make votes. And I thank you for that.

Mr. CARPER. I thank the Senator.

Madam President, on a brighter note, with respect to energy policy, a week or so ago we passed a major bill called FSC/ETI. Some people call it the JOBS bill or a trade bill. But provisions of the Energy bill were incorporated in that legislation, important provisions that include incentives for renewable forms of energy—solar, wind, geothermal—and incentives to encourage people to buy more energy-efficient vehicles, hybrids, fuel-cell vehicles, to make them more affordable, to get more of them out on the road, and using less gasoline and diesel fuel, and also incentives for us to begin converting to a greater use of what I call biofuels—ethanol—and something we do in Delaware a lot on the Delmarva Peninsula where we take soybean oil and mix it with diesel fuel.

They were able to do something good for the environment and actually reduce significantly our use of diesel-powered vehicles.

While it is still mid-May, we have a fair amount of time to go before we finish here. Before we finish, I hope we will find common ground on the rest of the energy policy, and that it is also respective of our environment and the clean air concerns we have, and gives the States the ability to recover damages for their drinking supply that has been damaged by MTBE.

GUEST CHAPLAIN RABBI BERNHARDT

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I express to Senator BIDEN my appreciation for his inviting a wonderful woman, a rabbi from Delaware, to come here to be our guest Chaplain, and to say how pleased we are, all of us, to welcome Ellen Bernhardt. She gave the invocation about 40 minutes ago. I told her it was one of the best invocations I have heard in the 3 years I have been privileged to be a Senator. It was as good as any I have heard. We thank you for not only coming to bring the blessing of that invocation, but to remind us about what really matters.

I also thank her for just what she does in Delaware. She has been a rabbi, I think, about 17 years. She is a native of Philadelphia. For the last 11 years or so, she has run a school in Delaware which is, I believe, the only Jewish day

school in our State. We have a lot of schools, but only one Jewish day school—Albert Einstein Academy. There are youngsters in kindergarten, from age 5, up to the sixth grade. While it is a Jewish day school, it is non-denominational because whether the students happen to be Jewish or not, they can attend that school. I was kidding earlier about how most of them are Baptists. Actually, I don't think that is the case. That gives you the flavor of the nondenominational school. I have been privileged to know a number of the kids who go there. They get a wonderful education and start for their lives and go on to do great work.

We have been joined today not only by Rabbi Bernhardt, but also by three of her children and her husband. We are so privileged that she lives in Delaware and that she provides great leadership on the educational side, and also for a lot of us on the spiritual side, whether we happen to be Jewish or not. Welcome.

Again, to my friend, JOE BIDEN, I thank him for making it possible for her to be here today.

Mr. BIDEN. Madam President, Delaware is a small State and everyone seems to know everyone else. We know just about everyone in the State. You can't go to the grocery store, church, synagogue, or mosque without running into people you know. We go to each other's events. It is a little like Alaska—small. Alaska is gigantic, but the population is small. We go to each other's gatherings, and we are affected by each other's achievements and each other's milestones, and we are affected by each other's losses. Sometimes the closeness gets us in trouble, but I would not change it for the world.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to represent my State and to have the pleasure over the years to invite several members of our clergy to come and be guest Chaplains.

Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt is our guest Chaplain today. As Senator CARPER said, she is finishing her 11th year at the Albert Einstein Academy in Wilmington, not far from where I live. The academy is open to all students, although it is the only Jewish day school in our State.

It has been a pleasure visiting the school on a number of occasions. Over the years, we have spent a fair amount of time in fundraising events together, sharing the dais, and attempting to see to it that the school remains vibrant. That has been going on, actually, before the rabbi was running the school. But the fact is, her dedication, talent, faith, and deep abiding commitment to her students and her work in my State has touched many people in our community. For that, we are all very grateful.

I believe I speak for all my colleagues when I say thank you for your thoughtful, inspirational invocation this morning. We need it badly at this moment in the United States. We are honored to welcome you to the floor of the Senate.

I arrived here almost 32 years ago and I feel the same amount of pride today that I felt then as I walk out on this floor. I know that sounds corny, but I really do. I am incredibly proud of this institution. I remember the first time I walked on the floor; my temporary desk was the second from the end over there. I realized I was standing next to the desk where Daniel Webster sat. I thought to myself, it is the only time I actually thought, my God, what am I doing here? In the last 31 years, some in my constituency have said: My God, what is he doing there? I have become accustomed to it. My impression at that time—and I don't know the rabbi's impression—was how small this Chamber is. There is a closeness to it. It is a comfort. Anyway, I am proud we are able to share the floor with the rabbi today.

Let me say, my relationship and personal connection with the rabbi is a quintessential example of the nature of the State of Delaware.

I happen to know that the rabbi grew up over her father's drugstore in Belfonte, which I frequented a lot. I went to St. Helena, a Catholic grade school in Claymont. Everybody knew your father's drugstore. Everybody hung out in your father's drugstore. I am considerably older than the rabbi. So we basically come from the same small neck of the woods, the same small neighborhood.

The rabbi's father was a heck of a guy, by the way. As a kid and a member of the Congregation Ades Kodesh Shel Emeth, Ellen would study after school with her rabbi, Rabbi Leonard Gewirtz—a man I always affectionately referred to as literally “my rabbi.” He introduced me frequently. He became my first tutor—literally, not figuratively—because of my interest in theology and the Holocaust. I remember speaking up at a college, a rabbinical school in Philadelphia. I remember those big old thick shoes he used to wear, the kind that laced up the side and squeaked on a linoleum floor. I was speaking in this room that was not very commodious for speaking; it was long and with low ceilings, and the podium was in the middle. It was a shoal, actually. He came late and wanted to hear me speak. He opened the door and the congregation was seated and the door smacked against a pew. He walked in and, as you know, he walked right up to the front and sat down. It was kind of a tense moment. Everybody wondered who is this guy walking in. I said, “My rabbi has arrived.”

After speaking to this all-Jewish congregation, a group of ladies my mom's age, who were in an atrium that connected the shoal to the university, the school—as I walked out, they were arguing. I could hear them saying: Yes, he is. No, he isn't. Yes, he is. A lady grabbed me by the coat and said: You said “your rabbi. He had a similar influence on me—though much more profound to you but no less significant to me.” He was a great man.

He was famous for his passionate sermons from the pulpit, his love for Jewish education, his love for Israel and the community he served.

Rabbi Gewirtz was truly a spiritual leader and, as Ellen will tell you, is the reason she decided to become a rabbi. We truly miss him, but his spirit is with her today. I know he is looking down and is very proud. He was also proud of this place, proud of this country, proud of the Senate. To have you here, I am sure, he is smiling.

There are a lot of other things I could and would like to say about Ellen. As I said, we are very similar in the sense that we are truly products of our parents' upbringing and, knowing her story, it is no surprise to me that she has devoted her life to Jewish education, community service, and to her family.

Her grandparents came to this country by way of Ellis Island. Her entire mother's side of the family chose to remain in Eastern Europe and were tragically killed in the Nazi Holocaust.

Her extended family was conspicuously absent from her life. As one can imagine, this had a profound effect on Rabbi Bernhardt and her family's life, priorities, and values.

Her father, Herman Gordon, was one of the many heroic members of the Armed Forces who chose to enlist in the Army Air Corps at the outset of World War II. Mr. Gordon served as a waist gunner on the Flying Fortress B-17 bomber.

Based in England, his unit performed missions over France and Germany, clearing the way for our troops to land on the beaches of Normandy. On his 24th mission, his plane was shot down over Germany. As a Jew, he became a prisoner of war in Germany for 9 months. The latter 3 months of his imprisonment was spent marching at gunpoint on the infamous “death march”—a desperate move by the Nazis to relocate their POWs straight into the heart of Germany, out of the hands of the Allied forces which were closing in, which I always thought was a metaphor for the insanity, the lust of Hitler and Nazi Germany. This nightmare all came to an end when Mr. Gordon's camp was liberated by General Patton's army.

It is quite a story, quite a heritage, and quite a family. As my dad, who passed away about a year and a half ago, would say: Girl, you have good blood; you have real good blood.

I only hope our children and grandchildren develop an appreciation for the sacrifices of so many Americans, such as Ellen's father, and the thousands of soldiers who are currently serving abroad have done for this country.

One of the reasons I am telling this story is to give my colleagues and constituents back home an insight into what motivates our guest Chaplain this morning to energize her students, family, and friends to better the Delaware

community and to uphold our American values with the same patriotic zeal exemplified by her father.

Last year, for the fourth consecutive year, I submitted a resolution in the Senate to designate the week of Veterans Day as "National Veterans Awareness Week." It explicitly underscores the need for our schools to develop educational programs to highlight the contributions of veterans in our country.

This past year, Ellen held a very moving ceremony. The school invited every friend, relative, or neighbor of a student who served in our military to come and speak at the ceremony in front of the entire school and faculty about their experiences.

Madam President, included in the list of speakers was the mother of LT Scott Travis, a Wilmington native, a graduate of Brandywine High School and West Point, who is currently serving in Iraq.

The ceremony brought real people with real stories into the classroom and gave the kids a tangible sense of what it meant and what it means to sacrifice for one's country. The climax was when students pinned medals on the veterans in attendance as a way to personally thank them for their service.

That is the kind of school Ellen runs. That is the kind of person Ellen is.

By the way, for the record, let me say that in my 31st year in the Senate, Rabbi Bernhardt is only the fifth guest Chaplain I have invited from Delaware, following in the footsteps of Father Jim Trainer from St. Patrick's Church, Rabbi Kenneth S. Cohen from Congregation Beth Shalom, and Father Robert Balducci from St. Anthony's Parish.

From where I sit, you are in good company and so are they.

I thank Rabbi Bernhardt for being here this morning. By the way, you should be very proud of your son sitting behind me who is a relatively new member of my staff. He is already having an impact in the conduct of business around here.

Again, I know I speak for all my colleagues when I welcome you and your family here today. Thank you for the sacrifices you have made for this country, and thank you for the values you are imprinting on the young men and women of my community.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Madam President, the distinguished ranking member of the Foreign Relations Committee wishes to speak on an important subject. Will the Senator indicate how much time he wishes to take?

Mr. BIDEN. Madam President, I say to the Senator, I do not want to interfere. I want to speak for about 10 minutes regarding Ahmed Chalabi. I do not have to do it now.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I say to the distinguished ranking member, we have 25 minutes that have been allocated. We could easily, I am confident, get another 10 minutes. Does the Senator wish to speak right now?

Mr. BIDEN. Madam President, I would like to do whatever accommodates the Senate.

Mr. REID. Through the Chair to the distinguished Senator from Florida, how is the Senator's time schedule?

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Madam President, I say there is never a dull moment in the life of this Senator from Florida. Since I have learned the ways of comity, accommodation, felicity, I yield to the distinguished Senator from the State of Delaware. In fact, in my remarks about are we better off now than we were 4 years ago, I was going to try to engage my distinguished colleague in a colloquy.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent there be 5 additional minutes on both sides for morning business. That will allow the Senator from Delaware to speak for 10 minutes. If my unanimous consent request is granted, that would allow him to begin now.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator will need an additional 10 minutes. All time in excess has expired.

Mr. REID. Our time is gone?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. There are 23½ minutes remaining.

Mr. REID. Where did our time go? Did somebody speak?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The senior Senator from Delaware and the junior Senator from Delaware.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent for an additional 10 minutes on each side, then.

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

AHMED CHALABI

Mr. BIDEN. Madam President, I thank my friend from Florida who knows much more about what I am going to mention today. He and I worked on what I am going to talk about for some time. And that is—there are reports coming in that the home and offices of Ahmed Chalabi were raided today in Baghdad.

I do not have clear evidence yet as to whether they were raided by the Iraqi government or by the CPA, but both the Senator and I have been incredible skeptics of this administration's reliance on this fellow, Ahmed Chalabi, who has been indicted, tried, convicted, and sentenced in Jordan.

For the last 2 years—although I have nothing personal against Mr. Ahmed Chalabi—I have been urging this administration, particularly the Secretary of Defense, the Vice President, and Mr. Wolfowitz: Do not put our eggs into Mr. Chalabi's basket.

Mr. Chalabi is the President of the Iraqi National Congress. I was so concerned about this that my friend from Nebraska, Senator HAGEL, and I were literally smuggled into northern Iraq about a month before the war began because we wanted to meet with the Barzani and Talibani clients in northern Iraq to determine what their attitude was, first, toward our invasion with Iraq—would they be with us? There were reports that they would have been, but we wanted to find out firsthand.

And B, we wanted to find out whether Ahmed Chalabi spoke for them. The leaders of both those clans said: We want to make it clear that the INC does not speak for us. We did form the INC with him, but he is out for himself, not us.

I could never quite understand the incredible preoccupation of the administration with Mr. Chalabi. I think that reliance has done us great damage in terms of establishing legitimacy.

Today's raid comes on the heels of an announcement earlier this week that the Defense Department belatedly, after well over a year, has cut off the \$340,000 monthly payment to the INC, headed by Mr. Chalabi.

Last month, I wrote to the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense asking them to explain why we continue to pay Mr. Chalabi a monthly stipend. The action was seen as sort of putting our thumb on the scale—we say we want the Iraqis to decide their outcome, and here we are pouring into one man, an outfit, \$340,000 a month.

It is no secret Mr. Chalabi has long been the favorite of the Pentagon civilians and the Vice President, although the CIA, the uniformed military, and the State Department have been adamantly opposed to him.

We recently had a meeting with the Secretary of Defense in a closed session, but I am allowed to say this in public, and I raised the question of funds to Chalabi and the phrase—well, I guess I cannot quote exactly what the phrase was. I cannot quote the Secretary. But the point is there has been a real difficulty in pushing back.

It has been clear for some time our close association with Mr. Chalabi has damaged American interests in Iraq. Chalabi is the best known figure in the Iraqi Governing Council, according to a poll taken. We appointed him. By the way, a poll taken a couple of months ago in Iraq shows that he is not only the best known member of the Governing Council, but he is also the least popular, with a negative rating of over 60 percent.

Chalabi, as my colleagues will recall, was flown in to southern Iraq literally days before the statue of Saddam fell. It was actually during the war; he was flown in to a portion of southern Iraq we had already conquered and passed. He had been flown in without the knowledge of the State Department and other senior officials. I guess he was going to be the triumphant Shi'a