

to dramatically cut the incidence of AIDS. There is a lot to be learned from what has been going on in Haiti.

In addition to cutting the incidence of AIDS, we have also seen in Haiti the dramatic increase in the use of antiretroviral drugs.

So when my wife Fran and I walked into an orphanage run by the Sisters of Charity, whereas just a year ago none of the children who had AIDS were on antiretroviral drugs, this year when we came back and walked in we would see some of the children who were HIV positive, who were in need of drugs, who actually this time were on antiretroviral drugs.

We saw one little boy who we were told had come in just a few months before. He was very critically ill and he would have died but the sisters, because of Dr. Pape and because of good assistance coming in to Haiti, were able to get that child antiretroviral drugs and we saw a very healthy, chubby little boy running around this orphanage. Because of very good care from the nuns and because he has antiretroviral drugs, that boy is going to make it.

That is the type of miracle we are now beginning to see in Haiti, and I think it is something for which we can be very proud. That is what we want to see replicated around the world.

So when I come to the Senate floor and ask my colleagues to vote for more money for AIDS assistance around the world, it is that little boy I am going to be citing. It is this type of little boy who we can save around the world because if it can be done in a poor country such as Haiti, it can be done in other countries as well.

That is very good news coming out of Haiti from our last trip.

I yield the floor.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I am quite troubled by what we have seen happen over the course of the weekend with the storming of the residential complex in or near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, the eastern portion of Saudi Arabia, the oil-producing portion of Saudi Arabia. The storming of this residential complex and the taking of hostages at a residential complex that held people from many nations portends of what is to come. That is very troubling to the United States and the world community.

In today's paper, I see headlines such as "Saudis storm complex to free hos-

tages." It says, "Saudi leaders say the recent attacks won't affect the oil supplies." Then in another piece in the same newspaper, it says, "Latest terror attack increases the doubts about the ability of Saudi Arabia to pump more oil."

Is it not interesting that we as a world community, and especially as the United States, have to be concerned about the pumping of that Saudi oil in order to feed the voracious appetite we have for energy. Is it not interesting the United States had some painful lessons we learned in the early '70s, and again in the late '70s, when the oil cartel locked down limited production and almost brought the industrialized world to its knees, and we became so much more dependent, realizing we needed that foreign oil to feed our appetite; that as a Nation, we said we are not going through this anymore; we are going to head on a path for energy independence. Then we lulled ourselves back into the seductive price of cheap oil and continued allowing our voracious appetite to go unabated, with the result that even though we have tried all kinds of alternative measures, the fact is we are importing more than half of our daily oil consumption, and that figure is moving upward to 60 percent of our daily oil consumption.

Right off the bat, that tells you that is not a good position to be in when it comes to the defensive interests of this country. Think how much of a freer hand we would have, as we conceive and develop our defense plans for this country, if we and the free industrialized world didn't have to depend on that oil coming out of that gulf region. But we are dependent. So when we see an attack by al-Qaida directly on those oil interests, we better start examining further the need for us to set energy independence as a major policy of the U.S. Government.

We know that the United States is, in fact, al-Qaida's target, but there should be no doubt now that Saudi Arabia is also the target of al-Qaida. It is a target where al-Qaida has a better chance of success because it has the desired goal of overthrowing the Royal Family of Saudi Arabia.

Saudi society presented them with many opportunities: weak institutions, an alienated population, and nearby terrorist operating bases. Al-Qaida's strategy is becoming increasingly clear. What they are doing is stoking the dissatisfaction of Saudi citizens with their government and the Royal Family by demonstrating the Royal Family's weakness by conducting their al-Qaida attacks in Saudi Arabia.

The attacks this past weekend indicate where they are now headed: to cut off Saudi Arabia's lifeline by destroying their oil facilities and diminishing their oil-producing capability. It is a strategy that has some chance of success. If the attack that happened this past weekend had interrupted the flow of Saudi oil, then the Saudi Royal

Family would, indeed, have some cause for concern that they could stay in power because overnight they would lose the one tool they have to keep some of the popular discontent in their country under wraps, and that is oil money.

The Saudi rulers have not helped matters over the years by ignoring the obvious, which is the threat to their own self-interest posed by Islamic extremists. Why? Because the Saudi Royal Family has played footsie for far too long with the radicals, thinking they could buy them off and paying money to the extremist religious schools, called madrasas, hoping that Saudi money, spread around the Muslim world where the most extreme ideology and hatred is taught, was going to buy them peace. But I think the Saudi Royal Family is beginning to wake up.

The United States has tried to be Saudi Arabia's defender. We had thousands of troops based over there in the 1990s. Clearly, when Saddam Hussein in the early nineties moved on Kuwait and it was very clear that he was intent on moving into Saudi Arabia, the United States responded. But Saudi Arabia did not like us having troops on their land. We did not particularly want to be there because we were the constant source of attack, such as the Khobar Towers bombing which took 19 American lives.

The United States could not build a defensive wall around Saudi Arabia to protect them—now especially that is so—even if we wanted to, which we don't, but that is especially so because many of the threats now come right from within Saudi Arabia itself. So all we can do is impress upon Saudi Arabia the need for reform in their society as quickly as they can to isolate the extremists, to institute democratic institutions, and to diversify their economy. But those prospects are not good because if the Saudi Royal Family were to fall and if it is succeeded by an Islamic radical regime, then I fear for the rest of the Middle East and the gulf region that we would see a risk of those regimes falling like dominos. With a radical Saudi successor regime in control of all that oil, one can imagine the damage it could do by holding the West hostage economically.

That is what we are facing. Sometimes we get lost in seeing the entire forest for the particular trees, but I think we need to pull back and see that this threat of radical terrorists is now being directed not only at us in the homeland, but it is being directed at a source of energy upon which the western industrialized world has become dependent. If the attacks we have seen just a few days ago do not convince us to curtail our addiction to oil, then I do not know what will.

Why don't we do some reasonable things? I remember the junior Senator from Massachusetts offering an amendment to do something real simple, such as lower the miles per gallon for SUVs,

and we got beat and beat badly. That is an easy one to do, not even to speak of shifting to alternative sources of energy, not even to speak of additional conservation efforts, not even to speak of production efforts where it is not going to harm the fragile environment where, indeed, there are the reserves, not even to speak of using our technology in a crash course such as we did when we went to the Moon in the Apollo project. We set a goal and we said we were going to achieve it. We marshaled the resources, we marshaled the will, we got the support of the American people, and within 9 years we were able to go to the Moon and return safely. And so, too, we need an Apollo-type project for energy independence to wean ourselves from that dependence on foreign oil.

We need to invest massive manpower and effort into developing alternative energy sources so that the possible collapse of unstable oil regimes in the Middle East will not hold us hostage. Lord knows, let's hope that does not happen, but we need to wake up and see the insatiable appetite we have for that foreign oil.

I believe energy independence is one of the top priorities for protecting U.S. national security. There are a lot of Senators who support that goal and yet we allow ourselves to be beat time and time again by certain special interests and lobbies that have their own interests at the forefront instead of the national interest.

The events of this past weekend make the need for energy independence a national priority. These events make it clearer than ever.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The journal clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. DOLE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I have discussed the upcoming schedule with the Democratic leader. We currently have a cloture vote scheduled for 5:30 today on the motion to proceed to the class action fairness bill. In a moment, I will ask unanimous consent to vitiate that cloture vote.

As I mentioned earlier this morning, it has been our hope to finish both the Defense authorization bill and the class action legislation in a timely way. To expedite completion of the Defense authorization bill, we will need to limit amendments so the managers of the bill can begin to schedule amendments accordingly.

In addition, we would like to reach an agreement to begin the class action bill immediately upon the conclusion

of the Defense authorization with no need for the motion to proceed. Having said that, I am prepared to ask unanimous consent but will withhold for any comment.

I now ask unanimous consent that the 5:30 cloture vote be vitiated and that the Senate begin consideration of S. 2062, the class action fairness bill, at the conclusion of the pending Defense authorization bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I further ask unanimous consent that at 5:20 today the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of calendar No. 558, the nomination of F. Dennis Saylor, IV, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Massachusetts; provided further that be there 10 minutes equally divided for debate prior to the vote on the confirmation of the nomination with no intervening action or debate.

Finally, I ask unanimous consent that following the vote the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislation session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I now ask unanimous consent that the only remaining first-degree amendments in order to the pending Department of Defense bill be limited to the list I have sent to the desk. I further ask unanimous consent that these amendments be subject to relevant second degrees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The list is as follows:

Akaka—National Security Education, Akaka—Smart Scholarship, Alexander—Federal Assistance No. 3173, Allard—Air Force Academy, Allard—Air Force Academy, Allard—Missile Defense, Allard—Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Bayh—Advanced Manufacturing Tech., Bayh—Iraq Reporting Requirements, BAYH—Missile Defense, Bennett—Mercury Storage, Bennett—Nuclear Testing, Bennett—UT Test and Training Range, Biden—Adjust Tax Cut to pay for War, Biden—Information Operations.

Biden—Preventing Identity Theft, Biden—Relevant, Biden—Relevant, Bingaman—EEG, Bingaman—HSI Definition, Bingaman—Non-Proliferation, Bingaman—Nuclear Weapon, Bingaman—Report, Bingaman—Science Technology, Bingaman—Vaccine Health Care Center, Bond—Military Voting, Bond—Nuclear Energy Workers, Bond—Relevant, Bond—Relevant, Bond—Relevant.

Boxer—Lengthy Deployment Pay, Boxer—Missile Defense, Boxer—Rape of Women Service Members, Boxer—Relevant, Brownback—FCC Decency, BROWNBACK—S.O.S. re: Air Force No. 3232, Brownback—Taiwan No. 3222, Byrd—Industrial Commission, Byrd—Relevant, Byrd—Relevant, Byrd—Use of Force, Campbell—Korean Medals, Cantwell—Capehart, Cantwell—Extend Unemployment Compensation, Cantwell—Former Dept. Of Energy Medical Screening.

Cantwell—Global Poverty Study, Cantwell—High Level Radioactive Waste, Cantwell—High-Level Waste, Chafee—Berry Amendment No. 3177, Chambliss—Retired

Pay No. 3223, Clinton—Commissaries and Schools, Clinton—Medical Tracking and Readiness (filed), Collins—Energy Savings Plan No. 3230, Collins—OMB Circular A-76 No. 3224, Collins—Outsourcing, Collins—Pilot Fees, Conrad—Relevant, Conrad—Relevant, Corzine—Relevant, Corzine—Relevant.

Corzine—Reservist Retirement, Corzine—Sovereignty, Craig—Immigration, Daschle—B-1, Daschle—Flesh Eating Parasites, Daschle—Military Reservist AG Loan Obligation, Daschle—Relevant, Daschle—Relevant to the List, Daschle—TRI CARE, Daschle—VA Health Care, Dayton—Buy American, Dayton—Operational Cost Reporting, Dodd—Federal Law Enforcement Officers, Dodd—Firefighters, Dodd—Health and Safety Equipment.

Dodd—Military Offset Contracts, Dodd—Private Military Firms, Domenici—Joint Study Center No. 3168, Domenici—Training Flights No. 3167, Dorgan—Oversight (with Wyden), Dorgan—Radio/TV Marti, Dorgan—Relevant, Dorgan—Relevant, Durbin—Dietary Supplement, Durbin—Reservists Pay, Durbin—Small Business Set Asides, Durbin—Treatment of Prisoners, Durbin—Treatment of Prisoners, Ensign—Oil for Food, Ensign—Relevant.

Enzi—Air Tankers, Feingold—FMLA Benefits, Feingold—Inspector General's Office, Feingold—Relevant, Feingold—Transition Services for Military, Feinstein—Afghanistan Anti-drug Effort, Feinstein—SoS re: Perchlorate, Fitzgerald—Veterans Health, Frist—Relevant to any on list, Frist—Relevant to any on list, Frist—Relevant to any on list, Frist—Relevant to any on list, Graham (Florida)—Haitian Refugee Immigration Improvement Act, Graham (Florida)—Night-Vision Goggles Training.

Graham (Florida)—NSA Recruiting Program, Graham (Florida)—Relevant, Graham (Florida)—Relevant, Graham (Florida)—Relevant, Graham (Florida)—Relevant, Graham (Florida)—Relevant, Graham (Florida)—Relevant, Graham (South Carolina)—CIPC, Graham (South Carolina)—DOE, Graham (South Carolina)—Independency of Judiciary, Graham (South Carolina)—Relevant, Graham (South Carolina)—TRICARE, Grassley—Army Industrial Facilities No. 3153, Grassley—Counter Drug in Afghanistan.

Hagel—Increasing Troop Strength, Harkin—Armed forces media, Harkin—Code talkers, Harkin—Energy employees compensation cohort, Hollings—Land Conveyance, Hollings—Relevant, Inhofe—Foreign Military and Security Forces No. 3200, Inhofe—Iraq and Afghanistan Funding No. 3198, Inhofe—Relevant, Inhofe—Relevant, Inhofe—Relevant, Inhofe—USO Procurement No. 3199, Johnson—Hazardous Duty Pay, Kennedy—AG Jobs, Kennedy—Beryllium Screening for Worker Health and Safety.

Kennedy—Civilization of JAG Functions, Kennedy—Federal Employees, Kennedy—Impact Aid, Kennedy—Increase in "One Source" Funding for Military Families, Kennedy—Iraq Policy, Kennedy—Iraqi Prisoner Abuse, Kennedy—Nuclear Weapons (with Feinstein), Kennedy—Relevant, Kennedy—Relevant, Kennedy—Relevant, Kennedy—Return of Military Remains, Kennedy—Russian American Observation Satellite, Landrieu—Land Conveyance, Landrieu—Preseparation Counseling, Landrieu—Survivor Benefit Plan (filed).

Lautenberg—Reimbursement for Medicare VNR's, Lautenberg—Relevant, Lautenberg—Special counsel on No-Bid Iraq Oil Contracts, Leahy—Civilian Assistance, Leahy—Data Mining Protection, Leahy—National Guard Title 32, Leahy—Relevant, Leahy—War Time Profiteering, Levin—Iraqi Lessons, Levin—Managers' Amendments, Levin—Relevant,