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Senate

The Senate met at 1:01 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore, Mr. STEVENS.

PRAYER

The chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all You have done for us. We thank You for the splendor of creation, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. Thank You for family and friends and for the loving care that surrounds us on every side. Thank You for work that demands our best efforts and for the satisfaction of a job done well. Thank You also for disappointments and failures that teach us to depend only on You.

Bless our Senators today. Give them the gift of Your spirit that they may make You known by their thoughts, words, and actions at all times and in all places. Strengthen and protect our military people. Imbue them with courage and loyalty. Remind us all to strive to glorify You in every action, both large and small.

We pray this in Your blessed Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today the Senate returns to regular business. Last week the Nation and the world bid

a final farewell to President Ronald Wilson Reagan. The services and ceremony were fitting tributes to our 40th President. I remind my colleagues that we will be printing a memorial book that will include all of the floor tributes and services related to the passing of our former President. For those Members who were unable to speak on the floor, we will allow Senators to submit statements on Ronald Reagan until June 25 in order to have those tributes printed in the memorial book.

ROTUNDA TRIBUTES TO FORMER PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

At this time, I ask unanimous consent that the tributes during the Rotunda services by our distinguished President pro tempore, currently in the Chair, Speaker of the House, and our Vice President be printed in today's CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SPEAKER'S REMARKS AT THE STATE FUNERAL OF THE LATE PRESIDENT RONALD WILSON REAGAN

(WASHINGTON DC).—The Speaker of the House, J. Dennis Hastert (R-IL) made the following remarks at the State Funeral of the late President Ronald Wilson Reagan tonight in the Capitol Rotunda:

Mrs. Reagan, Mr. Vice President, Members of Congress, Distinguished Guests: Ronald Reagan's long journey has finally drawn to a close.

It is altogether fitting and proper that he has returned to this Capitol Rotunda, like another great son of Illinois, Abraham Lincoln, so the nation can say, good-bye. This Capitol Building is, for many, the greatest symbol of democracy and freedom in the world. It brings to mind the "shining city on a hill" of which President Reagan so often spoke. It is the right place to honor a man who so faithfully defended our freedom, and so successfully helped extend the blessings of liberty to millions around the world.

Mrs. Reagan, thank you for sharing your husband with us—for your steadfast love and for your great faith. We pray for you and for your family in this time of great mourning.

But as we mourn, we must also celebrate the life and the vision of one of America's

greatest Presidents. His story and values are quintessentially American. Born in Tampico, IL, and then raised in Dixon, IL, he moved west to follow his dreams. He brought with him a Midwestern optimism, and he blended it with a western "can do" spirit.

In 1980, the year of the "Reagan Revolution," his vision of hope, growth, and opportunity was exactly what the American people needed and wanted. His message touched a fundamental chord that is deeply embedded in the American experience.

President Reagan dared to dream that America had a special mission. He believed in the essential goodness of the American people and that we had a special duty to promote peace and freedom for the rest of the world.

Against the advice of the timid, he sent a chilling message to authoritarian governments everywhere, that the civilized world would not rest—until freedom reigned—in every corner of the globe.

While others worried, President Reagan persevered. When others weakened, President Reagan stood tall. When others stepped back, President Reagan stepped forward. And he did it all with great humility, with great charm, and with great humor.

Tonight, we will open these doors and let the men and women who Ronald Reagan served so faithfully, file past and say good-bye to a man who meant so much to so many. It is their being here that I think would mean more to him than any words we say, because it was from America's great and good people that Ronald Reagan drew his strength.

We will tell our grandchildren about this night when we gathered to honor the man from Illinois who became the son of California and then the son of all America. And our grandchildren will tell their grandchildren—and President Reagan's spirit and eternal faith in America will carry on.

Ronald Reagan helped make our country and this world a better place to live. But he always believed that our best days were ahead of us, not behind us. I can still hear him say, with that twinkle in his eye, "You ain't seen nothing yet!"

President Reagan once said, "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." Twenty years ago, President Reagan stood on the beaches of Normandy, to honor those who made a life, by what they gave. Recalling the men who scaled the cliffs and crossed the beaches in a merciless hail of bullets, he asked, who were these men—these

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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ordinary men doing extraordinary things? His answer was simple and direct: They were Americans.

So I can think of no higher tribute or honor or title to confer upon Ronald Reagan than to simply say: He was an American. Godspeed, Mr. President, God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

REMARKS BY THE VICE PRESIDENT AT THE
STATE FUNERAL OF RONALD W. REAGAN

Mrs. Reagan, members of the President's family, colleagues, distinguished guests, members of the diplomatic corps, fellow citizens: Knowing that this moment would come has not made it any easier to see the honor guard, and the flag draped before us, and to begin America's farewell to President Ronald Reagan. He said goodbye to us in a letter that showed his great courage and love for America. Yet for his friends and for his country, the parting comes only now. And in this national vigil of mourning, we show how much America loved this good man, and how greatly we will miss him.

A harsh winter morning in 1985 brought the inaugural ceremony inside to this Rotunda. And standing in this place for the 50th presidential inauguration, Ronald Reagan spoke of a Nation that was "hopeful, big-hearted, idealistic, daring, decent, and fair." That was how he saw America, and that is how America came to know him. There was a kindness, simplicity, and goodness of character that marked all the years of his life.

When you mourn a man of 93, no one is left who remembers him as a child in his mother's arms. Ronald Wilson Reagan's life began in a time and place so different from our own, in a quiet town on the prairie, on the 6th of February, 1911. Nelle and Jack Reagan would live long enough to see the kind of man they had raised, but they could never know all that destiny had in store for the boy they called Dutch. And if they could witness this scene in 2004, their son taken to his rest with the full honors of the United States, they would be so proud of all he had done with the life they gave him, and the things they taught him.

President Reagan once said, "I learned from my father the value of hard work and ambition, and maybe a little something about telling a story." That was the Ronald Reagan who confidently set out on his own from Dixon, IL during the Great Depression, the man who would one day speak before cameras and crowds with such ease and self-command. "From my mother," said President Reagan, "I learned the value of prayer. My mother told me that everything in life happened for a purpose. She said all things were part of God's plan, even the most disheartening setbacks, and in the end, everything worked out for the best." This was the Ronald Reagan who had faith, not just in his own gifts and his own future, but in the possibilities of every life. The cheerful spirit that carried him forward was more than a disposition; it was the optimism of a faithful soul, who trusted in God's purposes, and knew those purposes to be right and true.

He once said, "There's no question I am an idealist, which is another way of saying I am an American." We usually associate that quality with youth, and yet one of the most idealistic men ever to become president was also the oldest. He excelled in professions that have left many others jaded and self-satisfied, and yet somehow remained untouched by the worst influences of fame or power. If Ronald Reagan ever uttered a cynical, or cruel, or selfish word, the moment went unrecorded. Those who knew him in his youth, and those who knew him a lifetime later, all remember his largeness of spirit, his gentle instincts, and a quiet rectitude that drew others to him.

See now, at a distance, his strengths as a man and as a leader are only more impressive. It's the nature of the city of Washington that men and women arrive, leave their mark, and go their way. Some figures who seemed quite large and important in their day are sometimes forgotten, or remembered with ambivalence. Yet nearly a generation after the often impassioned debates of the Reagan years, what lingers from that time is almost all good. And this is because of the calm and kind man who stood at the center of events.

We think back with appreciation for the decency of our 40th president, and respect for all that he achieved. After so much turmoil in the 60s and 70s, our Nation had begun to lose confidence, and some were heard to say that the presidency might even be too big for one man. That phrase did not survive the 1980s. For decades, America had waged a Cold War, and few believed it could possibly end in our own lifetimes. The President was one of those few. And it was the vision and will of Ronald Reagan that gave hope to the oppressed, shamed the oppressors, and ended an evil empire. More than any other influence, the Cold War was ended by the perseverance and courage of one man who answered falsehood with truth, and overcame evil with good.

Ronald Reagan was more than an historic figure. He was a providential man, who came along just when our Nation and the world most needed him. And believing as he did that there is a plan at work in each life, he accepted not only the great duties that came to him, but also the great trials that came near the end. When he learned of his illness, his first thoughts were of Nancy. And who else but Ronald Reagan could face his own decline and death with a final message of hope to his country, telling us that for America there is always a bright dawn ahead. Fellow Americans, here lies a graceful and a gallant man.

Nancy, none of us can take away the sadness you are feeling. I hope it is a comfort to know how much he means to us, and how much you mean to us as well. We honor your grace, your own courage, and above all, the great love that you gave to your husband. When these days of ceremony are completed, the Nation returns him to you for the final journey to the West. And when he is laid to rest under the Pacific sky, we will be thinking of you, as we commend to Almighty the soul of His faithful servant, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

EULOGY FOR PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN
(By Senator Ted Stevens)

Mrs. Reagan, Patti, Ron, Michael, distinguished guests, members of the Reagan family, and friends of Ronald Reagan in America and throughout the world:

Tonight, President Ronald Reagan has returned to the people's house to be honored by millions of Americans who loved him.

Since 1824, under this Rotunda, our Nation has paid final tribute to many dedicated public servants. President Abraham Lincoln was the first president to lie in state under this Capitol dome. In the coming days, thousands will come to these hallowed halls to say good-bye to another son of Illinois who, like Lincoln, appealed to our best hopes, not our worst fears.

In the life of any Nation, few men forever alter the course of history. Ronald Reagan was one of those men. He rose from a young boy who didn't have much to a man who had it all, including the love of a faithful partner and friend he found in his wife Nancy.

The true measure of any man is what he does with the opportunities life offers. By that standard, Ronald Reagan was one of

America's greatest. He first proved that as governor of California and later as the President of the United States.

When Ronald Reagan was sworn in as our 40th President, this Nation was gripped by a powerful malaise, inflation and unemployment were soaring, and the Soviet Union was winning the Cold War.

By the time President Reagan left office, he had reversed the trend of ever-increasing government control over our lives, restored our defense capabilities, guided us through the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, and set in motion policies which ultimately led to the collapse of the "Evil Empire."

His integrity, vision and commitment were respected by all. But history's final judgment, I believe, will remember most his ability to inspire us.

President Reagan put it best when he said: "The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He is the one that gets [the] people to do the greatest things."

This President inspired Americans by reaching out far beyond what he could attain. Like a good coach, he understood the value of a goal isn't always in achieving it; sometimes it is enough to simply look out into the future and remind people what is possible. And, often he achieved the impossible.

He reminded us that "government is not the solution." The solution lies in each of us. True American heroes are ordinary people who live their lives with extraordinary character and strength.

President Reagan showed us freedom was not just a slogan; he actually brought freedom to hundreds of thousands of people around this globe by opposing oppressive regimes. Those of us from the World War II generation looked up to him for his moral courage; in him we saw the leadership of great men like Eisenhower who led the way and moved us to follow.

On a winter day in 1981, Ronald Reagan stood on the steps that lie just beyond these doors to deliver his first inaugural address. He spoke of a journal written by a young American who went to France in 1917 and died for the cause of freedom. From that journal he read these words: "I will work, I will save, I will sacrifice, I will endure, I will fight cheerfully and do my utmost, as if the issue of the whole struggle depended on me alone."

Throughout his life, Ronald Reagan bore our burdens as if the outcome did depend on him alone. We will all remember him as an unparalleled leader and an exceptional man who lifted our Nation and set the world on a new path.

President Reagan achieved greatness in his life; some might even argue he transcended it. He could not have accomplished this without Nancy. Nancy is one of the finest First Ladies these United States have ever known. And the love Ronald and Nancy Reagan shared touched the hearts of people everywhere.

In 1989, President Reagan delivered his farewell address from the Oval Office. In that speech, the President spoke of "the shining city upon a hill" that, "after 200 years, two centuries . . . still stands strong and true on the granite ridge." Now, it is our turn to thank Ronald Reagan for making us believe in that shining city. As we say farewell, his last words as President echo across this great Nation. If we listen, we will hear him whisper the humble words he used to sum up his revolution: "All in all, not bad, not bad at all."

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today following the 60-minute period for morning business, we will resume consideration of S. 2400, the Department of Defense authorization bill. That will begin our third week of consideration on the Defense authorization bill. It is important that we finish this critical piece of legislation this week. I hope Senators will cooperate to that end. The amendments have been reviewed, and Chairman WARNER and Senator LEVIN will be looking to schedule floor consideration of those amendments.

Last week, I announced we will vote on Defense-related amendments this evening beginning at 5:30 p.m.. Although we have not locked in any votes at this time, it is my hope that this afternoon Members will come to the floor with their amendments so we can begin voting promptly at 5:30. We will alert all Senators when we reach consent concerning these votes.

In addition, this week we will need to consider a number of judicial nominations which were delayed from last week. Members should be prepared for consecutive votes on these nominations. We will be scheduling those votes throughout each day.

On this side of the aisle, we are not going to need rollcall votes on each of these nominations. I will be talking to the Democratic leadership to see if the Senate can act at least on some of these noncontroversial judges without a rollcall vote in the interest of schedule and time.

Finally, we face a number of scheduling challenges this week with other events that are going on. So it is important we use each Senator's time efficiently. We will be trying to accommodate as many of those events as possible. But we absolutely must have the cooperation of all Senators in order to get our work done this week.

I will turn to the assistant Democratic leader for his comments, and then I have a statement to make in morning business.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we will be very happy to be on the Defense bill. We on this side have a number of amendments that will be offered immediately. I think they will be substantive amendments and they should not be controversial, at least as far as I know.

I ask the distinguished majority leader if President Karzai is going to speak here tomorrow.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, it is my understanding he will be speaking tomorrow. The details of that will be announced later today. But it is my understanding it will be early in the morning to a joint session of Congress.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we look forward to working on this legislation. As the leader knows, we have a lot of amendments. I am glad we are able to focus on these today. I am sure we can dispose of a lot of these with the two managers. We have done that in the past. We still have to have several votes, and we will work to do our best

over on this side to get votes and move forward.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is the leader using leadership time?

Mr. FRIST. I will use leader time.

VISIT TO IRAQ

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, 10 days ago I had the opportunity to travel to Iraq to visit our troops on the front line and the troops serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. On that same trip to Baghdad, I had the opportunity to spend time with Ambassador Jerry Bremer as well as the new Prime Minister of the Iraqi interim government. He was appointed Prime Minister 3 or 4 days before our arrival. His name is Dr. Ayad Allawi. He happens to be a neurologist who spent part of his time and his training in England several years after I had the opportunity to do some of my training in England.

Also during this trip, we had the opportunity to discuss with, listen to, and receive briefings from our Nation's senior military officers who are currently leading our efforts in Iraq. I was joined by my colleagues Senator BOB BENNETT and Senator JOHN ENSIGN.

I will take a few moments to share with my Senate colleagues some of what we saw and learned on this trip. We didn't say very much about it because of the tributes last week. But about 8 days ago we were in Baghdad in Iraq. Some of what I will say you have heard before, but a lot of it you have not heard in large part because the media—both the media in Iraq and here in the United States—tends to cover the terrorist events, and it is very appropriate, but tends not to see what is going on on the ground in terms of what our soldiers see and what the Iraqi people are seeing. Given what we read and what we see in the media every day, we had the same experience today of waking up and opening the newspaper with yet another terrorist act. We expected to see things getting worse and worse on a daily basis. We expected to find a mission that was struggling, demoralized troops, collapsed infrastructure, and distressed Iraqi people. However, we found the opposite. We found hope. We found optimism. We found progress. Yes, we were there when terrorist activities were occurring, but in balance to that, and juxtaposed, we saw tremendous success. We went, in part, to encourage others. We actually came back very encouraged and inspired.

The transfer to sovereignty, I am absolutely convinced, having just been there, will be successful. The transfer of responsibility is well underway. Again, I did not realize fully until going over there 9 days ago that most of the responsibility has already been transferred to the interim Iraqi government. The 33 new ministers have all been appointed. Most, or a majority of them, are already running their cabinet position or their department. The

new Iraqi government, the interim government, which will serve until the elections, appears to be very strong. People have tremendous respect for these leaders.

We began our trip in Kuwait. On the outskirts of Kuwait City, we visited Camp Wolverine. We were briefed there by the Deputy Commander of U.S. Central Command, LTG Lance Smith. We learned how the command is fighting throughout the very large theater that begins in East Africa, the border being the Sudan area and extending across the globe to the "Stans." That entire theater is aggressively and with a great deal of success carrying out its responsibility, including fighting this war on terror. The 25 or 26 countries are all involved, both as a region and also as individual countries, in fighting this war on this global network of terror.

In countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan, we are actively engaged in combat operations. They were described in great detail to us. Alongside our coalition partners and others, we are fighting a preventive war with diplomacy and economic and other nonmilitary means. It is a global effort. It is a comprehensive war on terror that is being fought. Like weeds in a garden, our commanders realize if you do not take action promptly, aggressively, and broadly, terrorism will take root, it will grow deep, and it will spread uncontrollably.

After our briefings, Senators BENNETT and ENSIGN and I met with the service men and women, the soldiers who are out there literally on the front line day in and day out. In Kuwait City there is an entryway where everybody coming to that part of the world is channeled—our soldiers—as well as when they exit to go home on leave for a few weeks. It is remarkable how our soldiers are briefed and debriefed and that transition is made.

Later that day we had the opportunity to dine with soldiers from our respective States. I had the pleasure of sharing a meal with many soldiers from Tennessee, including Tech SGT Kenneth Clark from Millington, MAJ Jon Hays from Chattanooga, MSG John Russell from Bluff City, and SGT Otis Fox from Memphis. I understate when I say that being able to have a meal with them, with the Tennessee flag up next to us, made me and Tennessee quite proud.

The next day we spent in Iraq where, as I mentioned, we met with Ambassador Bremer and his staff. This is a view from the ground from where we were 8 to 9 days ago. He made very clear he is encouraged by the caliber of the new Iraqi interim government. It was in that meeting that I realized much of the responsibility for sovereignty has already taken place. The new ministers are actually up and running right now.

We also had an update on the Iraqi economy and reconstruction efforts, which, again, are doing much better