

a young human life. To assert that it is not a life or that it is so-called potential life is not a scientific statement. To assert a human embryo is not a human life is a belief not supported by the facts, much in the same way that to say the Sun revolves around the Earth is a belief not supported by the facts.

Science is about the pursuit of truth in the service of mankind. Science tells us that the unborn child, from the moment of conception, is a human life.

That is why, in the debate over embryonic stem cell research, I continue to assert we must address the fundamental question of law: Is the young human embryo a person or a piece of property?

Our country has gotten this issue wrong before—notably, the 1857 Dred Scott case—but our system gives us an opportunity to rectify past wrongs. I suggest we base our laws on what science tells us, which is that the young human embryo is indeed a human life.

Anybody watching now was, at one point in time, a young human embryo. And if you were destroyed then, your life would not exist today. Those are the facts.

Unfortunately, not everyone in this debate is looking at biology. But once both sides acknowledge the scientific truth, that the young human embryo or unborn child is a human life, then we can start to address what Reagan posited as the real question: "What is the value of a human life?"

In "Abortion and the Conscience of a Nation," President Reagan lamented the case of Baby Doe, who was legally starved to death because he was mentally handicapped. In more recent times, we have the case of Terri Schiavo, who was saved from starvation. In that case, the American public, along with Florida Governor Jeb Bush, let their voices be heard that life is worth living. Those voices proclaimed that life—even if not the "quality of life" many would deem acceptable—still has incredible value. The value of every human life must be defended without exception.

To deny that a human embryo is a human life is to disregard what science tells us. It is to live willfully in ignorance.

In addressing his critics through the essay, President Reagan wrote:

Obviously, some uninfluential people want to deny that every human life has intrinsic, sacred worth. They insist that a member of the human race must have certain qualities before they accord him or her status as a "human being." . . . Every legislator, every doctor, and every citizen needs to recognize that the real issue is whether to affirm and protect the sanctity of all human life, or to embrace a social ethic where some human lives are valued and others are not. As a nation, we must choose between the sanctity of life ethic and the "quality of life" ethic.

President Reagan concluded his essay with these words:

My administration is dedicated to the preservation of America as a free land, and there

is no cause more important for preserving that freedom than affirming the transcendent right to life of all human beings, the right without which no other rights have any meaning.

"Abortion and the Conscience of a Nation" was written by a man who was fully committed to the unalienable right to life from the moment of conception. And that man was President Reagan.

However, President Reagan did not stop at "Abortion and the Conscience of a Nation." He had to withstand much political pressure to maintain his stance in defense of life.

A Reagan aide recalled the President's 1987 meeting with leaders of the pro-life movement. He wrote:

In January 1987 the subject of parental consent for abortion came up as the groups met with the President in the Roosevelt Room. As you know, Ronald Reagan was a prodigious letter writer during all phases of his life and career, but he was also a prodigious letter reader and keeper. If a letter's contents appealed to him or struck a chord, he would keep it, use it in speeches, quote it to the media, etc. The letter he received from the young boy asking him if he was going to do his speech to the Congress "in his pajamas" after his recovery from the assassination attempt was one such example. Ronald Reagan loved to read samples of mail from the American people and called Anne Higgins to ask for it on Fridays if for some reason it was later than usual in getting to him. Meeting with the pro-life leaders that January day, he pulled from his left-hand jacket side pocket and read a letter he said he had held onto for many years. It was from a California mother who had written to him about the parental consent issue when he was governor in the early 1970's.

Ronald Reagan read the letter to the entire group. The mother described her own family and the daughters she had raised, the sweat she had expended, the clothes she had washed and folded, the hurt knees she had bandaged, etc. She wrote that now the opponents of parental consent for abortion were telling her that they had a right to perform surgery on those daughters without so much as letting her know. "Who do they think they are?" went her refrain.

The letter went on in this vein with other examples of the worries and stresses of loving parenthood, and the abrupt dismissal of that sacrifice by the [abortion providers] who think they know better when a child gets in trouble. Ronald Reagan read the letter through, folded it and put it back in his pocket, and said softly, "Who do they think they are?" You could have heard a pin drop.

The record could hardly be clearer. President Ronald Reagan vigorously worked to promote a culture of life, which included consistent opposition to destructive research on human embryos. It was and it remains the Reagan Cultural Doctrine. Witness after witness affirms this. It is important that the great moral stance President Reagan took be reaffirmed and boldly declared.

When we think of the great Presidential doctrines of the past, we think immediately of the foreign policy doctrines of Presidents Monroe and Truman—and, yes, Ronald Reagan. These doctrines have been and continue to be significant in defining American interests.

On January 14, 1988, President Reagan declared a new doctrine: the Reagan Cultural Doctrine. This doctrine is not about foreign policy; it is about something that especially defines us as a people. This doctrine speaks volumes, in the sense that it makes clear who we are and what we stand for as a people. It reaffirms the Declaration of Independence and the founding values that have been the source of America's greatness.

It is my hope President Bush will reissue the Reagan Cultural Doctrine on "the unalienable personhood of every American, from the moment of conception until natural death," and that the Congress will reaffirm the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution by passing laws that will guarantee the right to life to every American conceived within the boundaries of this life-loving and freedom-loving land. That is the Reagan Cultural Doctrine.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. DOLE). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

SENATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, the Senate has been busy over the past 4 weeks. I thought I would take a few moments to look back and then look ahead a bit.

The Memorial Day recess seems like a long time ago because so much has been shaped by us—referring to the progress we have made in the last several days in particular—and shaped by the other external events, a steady stream of national and world-changing events.

To begin, I will start with two nights ago when, on Wednesday night, we passed the Defense Authorization Act for 2005; and late last night, not that long ago, we passed the Defense Appropriations Act of 2005. It is appropriate to look at those two bills together because both focus on supporting our troops, supporting our U.S. Government in its war on terror.

We had 4 weeks of impassioned debate on the floor of the Senate, and at the end of those 4 weeks we completed two very important pieces of legislation which very clearly augment the support for our troops that are stationed throughout the world and also reflect our profound commitment to the defense of the United States of America, the defense of the citizens, the people, and the principles we stand for in this great country.

But we are at war. We see it daily; terrorists strike daily. It is these two pieces of legislation that focus around support in this war on terror and in the defense of this country that we see our

efforts really come alive. They provide our troops with the resources they need to succeed in this noble mission both here at home and abroad.

The last several weeks were meaningful for me because this whole concept of supporting our troops came alive both last week when I visited the 101st Airborne down in Tennessee and Kentucky, but also 2 weeks prior to that when I had the opportunity, with two colleagues, Senator BOB BENNETT and Senator JOHN ENSIGN, to go to Kuwait and Baghdad in Iraq to visit our troops on the front line.

We visited with our troops in Kuwait and in Baghdad in clinics. We went to visit troops at hospitals. As a physician, I had the opportunity to talk to our physicians and nurses, who are doing such a tremendous job on the front line, taking care of people who have been injured by the terrorist activity. We had lunch with our troops; we had dinner with our troops. We spent a lot of time listening to and walking and talking with our troops on the front line. We learned a lot.

Given the savagery we wake up to every day and that occurs over the course of the day, which is reflected in our daily news media with the terrorist activity, before going over and preparing for my trip, I expected that when I went, I would find, possibly, a demoralized operation that would threaten to buckle at the next big terrorist event. I expected to come into contact with hopeless Iraqis, because you don't see the positive developments in our daily news here. I thought the Iraqis I met would be in despair with a lack of opportunity. I thought I might see that in them in terms of starting a new life or a freer life. Yet what we saw—and that is why it is so important for our elected representatives to go see this firsthand—is a country undergoing a dramatic rebirth. It is a rebirth fueled by faith and the importance of those principles—really the same principles we celebrated in tribute to Ronald Reagan 2 weeks ago: freedom, liberty, democracy. You can see it in the Iraqis' eyes when you have the opportunity to interact with them in a personal way. Democracy, freedom, and the rule of law are the principles they come back to with a lot of hope and optimism, understanding there are real challenges, which we are seeing every day along the way.

Prime Minister Alawi, who happens to be a physician, a neurologist, which is a nerve specialist in medicine, we had the opportunity to meet about 10 days after he had been chosen to be Prime Minister. Since that point in time, almost 3 weeks ago, you have begun to see his face on television. He has been speaking and saying to the Iraqi people that when these terrorists strike, it is not striking at the United States of America, not at the coalition, but the terrorists are striking and hurting the Iraqi people. They are trying to destroy the faith and belief in freedom and democracy and represent-

ative government. It is important that it is an Iraqi face that is telling the real story to the Iraqi people. According to the Prime Minister, the people are responding.

As Prime Minister Alawi said to us when we met in Baghdad, the radical Islamists and Saddamists—the loyalists to the old Saddam regime—who are conducting these attacks despise freedom. He said they hate freedom, despise it. They despise the rule of law.

The terrorists know that if democracy succeeds, they have lost; thus, we are going to see this increased activity of terrorism. We will see it, I am sure, over the next 5 days as we lead up to the turnover of sovereignty, and it will likely continue for a period of time, according to President al-Yawr of Iraq, as well as the Prime Minister. They say that is going to be the reality for a while.

But despite this terrorist activity—and this is what I think is important to share—there is much good news. A lot of progress has been made in the last year. Unemployment has been cut to nearly half. Bank deposits are up.

Inflation has been reduced by more than 50 percent.

Oil production is nine times higher than it was a year ago. Electricity is flowing. Forty percent more people have telephones and are using telephones today than during the Saddam Hussein era.

More than 1,200 medical clinics and over 240 hospitals—all the hospitals—are now up and running and operating today.

In the field of education, 2,400 schools have been rehabilitated. The Iraqi children are going to school on a daily basis.

Let me refer back to medicine. Over 85 percent of the children are immunized, which is actually higher than many urban areas in the United States of America.

So there is a lot of good news that is underway. We are moving in the right direction.

I also wish to mention what is becoming increasingly apparent to me, especially after traveling there, is the \$18 billion we appropriated, we sent to Iraq to be spent, has not yet been spent. There are about \$8 billion or \$9 billion that has not been spent. The rest of it has been allocated but still not spent.

What we are likely to see over the next several weeks or months is acceleration in the flow of that money. That money goes into health, education, electricity, oil, infrastructure, microloans in support of the economy, and that infusion of money and resources will make a difference. It has just flowed too slowly over the last 6 to 8 months since we have appropriated it, and now that will accelerate. We are assured by those people who will be overseeing that money that the system is set up to allow that money to flow much more quickly, which will have a more dramatic, even greater, impact.

The test is here, though. This test of the turnover to sovereignty is before the Iraqi people. The Iraqis will face their first true test of sovereignty, and it is absolutely imperative that our troops be able to adequately support their Iraqi partners when asked to do so. Prime Minister Alawi, as well as President al-Yawar, made it very clear they need the continued support of the coalition during this turnover of sovereignty and in this period of transition, which will be months and maybe years, as they rebuild their own police forces and security forces, and that just simply takes time.

The Senate this week, by passing those two bills—the Defense authorization bill and the Defense appropriations bill—has acted on behalf of the American people to maximally support our troops, to maximally support this war on terror, and the passage of these two bills reflects our commitment to bring fundamental human rights and liberties to a ravaged and oppressed region of the world. That is real progress on the floor of the Senate, passage of those two bills in the last 72 hours.

Looking again over the last 4 weeks, a second area in which we made real progress is the judicial nominations. Since June 1, the Senate has confirmed 24 judges for positions in the U.S. Federal courts. The installation of these new judges is vital to the creation of a healthy and efficient Federal court system, and the United States is fortunate to have judges of such high caliber, supreme caliber now eligible to serve on the bench. So 24 more judges have been confirmed since June 1.

There has been real progress in a third field, and that is other nominations. Alan Greenspan was confirmed to another term as Chairman of the Federal Reserve, our former colleague, Jack Danforth, as our new Ambassador to the United Nations just this week, and John Negroponte as Ambassador to Iraq. Again, very important nominations have been addressed, judicially and in other fields.

In a fourth area, I will mention several measures. One is the Child Nutrition Act. My colleague from Mississippi, THAD COCHRAN, did a tremendous job in the Agriculture Committee with the Child Nutrition Act. It has not been on the front page that we passed that act. But in this particular bill is the School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Summer Feeding Program, and the Women, Infants and Children, so-called WIC, nutritional program. An interesting statistic is that about 50 percent of all newborns today qualify for the WIC Program. It is an amazingly high number, but it shows the importance and significance of this program which has been extended.

Also, in this particular bill that Senator COCHRAN led through the Senate and was passed in the Senate is the application of nutritional standards which, as a physician, as one very interested in health, especially children's

health and infant's health, I think is very important.

In addition, we created the Department of Homeland Security headquarters. That is a first. That is at the Nebraska Avenue complex.

So we made real progress over the last 4 weeks. We have a lot of work—much work—to be done in the remaining days of the 108th Congress. As I said many times—in fact, I usually open and close with it each day—the number of legislative days remaining in this session is few, rapidly dwindling, and there are a whole range of issues we must address before November. The Senate must seize this week's momentum and be focused when we reconvene on July 6.

Very briefly, as we look ahead to when the Senate comes back, we will return to the consideration of class-action reform legislation. It is a very important piece of legislation. I had hoped initially to complete debate on this measure before the recess, but I accommodated concerns of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who support this measure, and we postponed consideration of class action until we get back from the recess.

In fact, I should mention, just as a reminder, that this is my third attempt as majority leader to bring class action to the floor of the Senate. I moved to proceed to the bill in October, October 22. The other side of the aisle blocked us proceeding to that piece of legislation.

Secondly, I scheduled long in advance that we would come to class action on June 1, but I was asked by my Democratic colleagues, the ones who support this legislation, to postpone it and do not go to it June 1.

Thirdly, I have scheduled it for when we return on July 6. We have to address it at this juncture. We just have so few days left in this session that now is the time to address class action, and we will be addressing it when we come back. This is my third attempt to bring it to the floor of the Senate.

Every day all of us, although we may not think about it, as consumers are affected by increased prices due to either exorbitant lawsuits that do not make any sense or just frivolous lawsuits that may be reflected in the current class-action mechanism.

We set out in a bipartisan way to develop a very good bill that should have 62 votes or more, an overwhelming majority of the Senate. It is a very good bill that addresses appropriate class action reform. I stress, it is bipartisan. The bill we are bringing to the Senate floor is a bipartisan bill. I am looking forward to a healthy and honest debate and to ultimately pass this sorely needed reform.

I do want to thank my Republican and Democratic colleagues who have worked together to fashion the bill that, as I said, at least in conversations, the legislation has been written and has 62 or more votes at this juncture.

Looking ahead to next month, I have announced that the Senate will also debate the Federal marriage amendment. Certainly this is much anticipated legislation. I expect us to have a comprehensive and defining debate on this important issue. This issue is central, I believe, to understanding our country's values and identity. I initiate this process—and it is a constitutional process—in the Senate because I believe elected representatives, not activist judges, should be the ones who define this institution, which reflects the social fabric of our society. In large part, it is in response to what activist judges have taken upon themselves, and that is to radically redefine what marriage is. It is really in response to that that we are going to have this national discussion, and it is going to be right on the Senate floor.

In July, the Senate will also act on a trade issue, the U.S.-Australian Free Trade Agreement. This is important legislation. In passing this new legislation, the United States will inject almost a half billion dollars into our economy. This will continue to drive our own country's continuing economic growth.

A couple of issues that are down the track—they are not there yet, so we need to get all the way down the track if we are going to keep moving America forward. One is the transportation bill. That bill is in conference now. It is a very important bill that has to do with safety on our highways, creation of jobs, economic growth and prosperity in communities that depend upon good highways and good roads to facilitate commerce, and the list goes on. It is a bill that has been passed in the Senate and in the House. As people know, there are significant differences. My goal is to have those differences worked out in the conference and to send a bill to the President of the United States that he will sign.

To me, the exercise is really—I will not say worthless; it is always important to exercise, but if the President is not going to sign the bill, we are simply not going to accomplish what we want to in jobs, in economic prosperity, in safety issues related to our highways.

The second issue I will mention is the manufacturing jobs bill on the Senate floor. The FSC/ETI bill, as some people refer to it, really just centers on a very simple concept that we have a Euro tax, a tax that is imposed on the U.S. businesses right now that is increasing 1 percent a month, that this bill addresses. We have passed it in the Senate. The House has passed their bill. Now it is time for us to go to conference so we can work out the differences and eliminate the impact of this Euro tax on America.

So a lot has been accomplished over the last 4 weeks. I hope we can continue this momentum—in fact, we will continue this momentum—and come back from the recess with a commitment to serving America's best interest in a focused way.

The 1 week I left out of the last 4 weeks is the week we spent in tribute to Ronald Reagan, where we recognized the life and legacy of one of America's greatest Presidents. A little over 2 weeks ago, we paid our final respects to President Ronald Wilson Reagan. Over the course of the week, we had the opportunity to mourn the passing of this great American leader but also to celebrate the values for which he stood. There were countless tributes paid to President Reagan, his beloved wife Nancy, and to the entire Reagan family. All of those tributes helped us celebrate the memory of this optimistic, bold, and compassionate President. World and national leaders filed through this building, the Nation's Capitol, down the hallway behind me, to pay respects as the President lay in state. We had the opportunity to welcome many of those world and national leaders, but what was truly remarkable to me was to be able to be in my office or in the hallway and see the hundreds and then the thousands and then the tens of thousands of ordinary, regular, hard-working Americans who came to the Nation's Capital from all around the country, people who would drive hundreds, indeed thousands, of miles. People would get on an airplane and arrive at 10 at night to stand in line for 4 or 5 hours to pay their respects.

Throughout the week, our shining Capital City united peoples throughout the world, both those who could be here, those who watched on television, those who read the newspapers, and those who heard it on the radio. It united the American people and the world peoples in a way that is very rare. Indeed, it is the sense of national and global community that embodied the legacy of the 40th President, and though we said goodbye to the man, we carry forward his relentless faith in those values of freedom and democracy.

Later this afternoon, I will be traveling to the NATO Istanbul summit in Turkey in anticipation of this trip where international leaders will be gathering to look ahead and address the international climate. Couple that trip, my anticipation of what I will find and learn on that trip, with the summary I just gave and the events that occurred in the last 4 weeks in this country and on the floor of the Senate, I personally will be celebrating the Fourth of July with a renewed sense and appreciation for and faith in the ideals that are represented in the United States of America.

We have a lot of challenging days ahead, and we have a lot of exciting days ahead. We will continue honoring our country's great, bold, and storied legacy when the Senate reconvenes on July 6.

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

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

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INTERNATIONAL

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, it was 1976 in Americus, GA. Millard Fuller and his wife Linda had sold their possessions, given away their millions and rededicated themselves to their Christian faith. They had decided to express their faith by building homes for the poor. They believed, in their words, that:

What the poor need is not charity but capital, not caseworkers but co-workers. And what the rich need is a wise, honorable and just way of divesting themselves of their overabundance.

So they founded Habitat for Humanity International to build no-interest, no-profit homes for the poor and homeless.

Since then, the ecumenical, Christian-based organization has grown to serve 89 countries. It has built more than 150,000 houses providing more than three quarters of a million people with safe, decent, affordable shelter. Millard and Linda Fuller have taken a Biblical injunction and turned it into worldwide action.

Jack Kemp, former U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and a board member of the organization, says that, "When I'm asked about housing success stories from our inner cities, the first group that comes to mind is Habitat for Humanity."

I tell you all of this, because next month, I have the privilege of joining over two dozen volunteers in my home town of Nashville, TN, to help build a Habitat home for Anita Phillips, a single mom of three. Local businesses have donated supplies. Anita has taken out a no-interest mortgage. She will be working alongside us, hammering nails and hauling lumber. Anita calls her new Habitat home "a gift from God."

For nearly three decades, Habitat has shared the gift of homeownership with thousands around the world. Habitat helps organize local communities to pitch in and give hard working people like Anita the opportunity to build equity and pride.

In Tennessee, alone, Habitat has 52 affiliates and serves 61 counties. This year, Tennessee will celebrate building two thousand Habitat homes.

Social scientists tell us that homeownership is one of the most important economic and social investments we can make. Owning a home helps families build financial stability and wealth. It helps break the cycle of poverty as families accumulate equity.

Homeowners also become stakeholders in their communities. They become more invested in the civic life and health of their neighborhood. Their children are healthier and do better in school.

Owning ones' home also generates a sense of pride and belonging. It's a big

responsibility, but those four walls belong to you.

I commend habitat for Humanity International for their tireless efforts. This past March, I was joined by over a dozen members from both sides of the aisle and both houses of Congress to build a home right here in the Nation's capital.

I encourage my colleagues to participate in Habitat builds in their home States, as well. It sends the message that Congress is committed to helping organizations like Habitat spread the good work.

This fiscal year, Congress has provided \$27 million for the Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program. Also called, "SHOP," the program requires homebuyers to contribute their labor to the construction or rehabilitation of their soon-to-be, new home. President Bush has requested \$65 million for the next fiscal year to support the SHOP initiative.

Additionally, the 108th Congress passed, and President Bush signed into law, the "American Dream Downpayment Act of 2003." This new program will help 40,000 families a year with their down payment and closing costs.

In the halls of Congress and in communities across America, we care about helping our neighbors fulfill the American dream.

Habitat for Humanity International has been at the forefront of the cause.

That is because through their faith and compassion, Millard and Linda Fuller realized decades ago that the working poor need a hand-up not a hand-out, and that a community is not just something you join, it's something you build.

HONORING BOB MICHEL

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, yesterday I introduced legislation to name the Veterans Affairs Clinic in Peoria, IL, the Bob Michel Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in honor of former House Minority Leader Robert H. Michel.

Bob Michel's interest in veterans' affairs began when he served in the Army's 39th Infantry Regiment, fighting on Normandy Beach during World War II. Wounded by machine gun fire during the Battle of the Bulge, he was discharged from the military as a disabled veteran after earning The Purple Heart, two Bronze Stars, and four Battle Stars.

Michel began his life of public service in 1957, serving the citizens of the 18th District of Illinois in the House of Representatives. Because of his hard work and dedication to his constituents, he was elected minority whip and eventually House minority leader. He was also actively involved in the creation of several pieces of legislation that dealt with veterans' affairs, including a resolution that helped to remove obstacles to employment of partially disabled persons honorably discharged from the Armed Forces.

A veteran himself, Michel understood the need for quality health care for those who served in the military. He used his prominent position in the House of Representatives to lead the effort to establish a VA clinic in Peoria. The clinic he helped to create now serves up to 10,000 veterans a year, in as many as 12 counties in central Illinois. The clinic offers a variety of services for veterans, including medical and mental health services, ophthalmology, audiology and assistance for the homeless.

Representative RAY LAHOOD, who now holds the Congressional seat previously held by Bob Michel, has introduced companion legislation in the House. Representative LAHOOD's bill is supported by all House members of the Illinois delegation.

I hope that the Senate will act expeditiously in enacting this legislation. This bill will serve to honor Robert H. Michel who served our country through his service in the military and Congress.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Madam President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

On January 18, 1999, a carload of men in San Francisco, CA, allegedly threw a bottle at and taunted two gay men.

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

FOCUS HOPE'S MOBILE PARTS HOSPITAL

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, earlier this week the U.S. Army held an awards ceremony honoring the Top Ten Greatest Inventions of 2003. Looking at each of these inventions, one is reminded of the technological innovation, ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit that our Nation is able to harness in the global war on terror. These are among our Nation's greatest assets.

One of the Army's Top Ten Greatest Inventions of 2003 was the product of the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research Development and Engineering Center, TARDEC, located in Warren, MI. This device, the Squad Automatic Weapon Pintle Mount Assembly for the Humvee is a gun mount that has been directly attributed with protecting and saving the lives of many of our soldiers who are currently deployed in Iraq.

This gun mount is a novel device that would not have been possible were