

Reverend Bennett's commitment to public service, however, has extended well beyond his West Las Vegas congregation. As president of the Las Vegas Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from 1963–1967 and 1971–1973, Rev. Bennett was among the foremost leaders in the struggle for civil rights in Nevada. He has continued to remain active in the Las Vegas NAACP as an executive board member for the past 30 years.

Reverend Bennett also served as a member of the Nevada State Assembly for 10 years. As chairman of the Health and Welfare Committee, he worked hard to ensure that the State's health care and social welfare services kept pace with Nevada's dramatic growth and development. In doing so, Reverend Bennett helped expand the opportunities available to Nevadans and improve the quality of life in the Silver State.

His lifetime of service to his church and community has been recognized by many organizations including the University of Nevada, which conferred upon him its Distinguished Nevadan Award.

I also want all within the sound of my voice to understand the quality of friend Reverend Bennett has been to me. The quality has been the best, for which I will always be grateful.

In short, Reverend Bennett has led a distinguished career and life. Please join me in congratulating him on his recent retirement from the Zion United Methodist Church, and wishing him health and happiness in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOE TRUJILLO

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I honor a long-time member of my staff, Joe Trujillo. I usually call him Joseph, but my staff and most of those from my home State of New Mexico refer to him as "Joe T." I do not want misunderstanding—he is not retiring, because his work is not done. However, Joseph Trujillo has served as a member of my staff, in one capacity or another, for 25 years.

His always positive outlook is remarkable, and his smile is contagious. His jovial attitude and eagerness to deal with challenges is admirable. His keen understanding of people is tied to his own rich personality, and it is Joe's rich personality that I, and those from my home State, have come to know and love the most.

Joe is a New Mexico native. He grew up in Los Alamos, and graduated from Los Alamos High School in 1964. He was the first New Mexico Hispanic to be awarded the Phi Beta Kappa key at the University of New Mexico.

After graduating from UNM in 1968, he worked on a collaborative project to help Albuquerque's inner city poor. We first met in 1969, while I was chairman of the Albuquerque City Commission. Joe later became a City of Albuquerque employee. In 1976, he began working for

Albuquerque mayor, Harry McKinney, as the city's federal grants coordinator. Mayor McKinney dispatched him to work out of my office here in Washington, and after awhile I convinced him to become a member of my staff.

Right after coming to work for me in 1979, he became the member of my staff who dealt with Indian affairs. But he did much more. Over the past 25 years he has been given more responsibilities than I can count. From appropriations and budget, to banking, Indian affairs and economic development, and everything in between, Joseph has done it all. His wealth of experience is beyond compare. For all who know Joe, it has always been clear that his passion is working to help those who are less fortunate.

Joe has done more for Indians than most Senators. Through the years, Joe has been instrumental in bringing tribal leaders to the table to discuss their dilemmas. He arranged several economic summits in the State to help Indians develop their infrastructure and local economies. His hard work and dedication wrought a successful economic development strategy, along with an education and healthcare plan to help Indians in New Mexico and across the Nation.

In 2001, after 22 years in my Washington office, he returned to New Mexico to serve as a member of my State staff where he continues his fine work at the local level on Indian issues and rural development initiatives.

Joe Trujillo is loyal, and one on whom I trust and depend. He has been a member of my staff since June 19, 1979. In that time, we have accomplished much, and I am extremely proud of those accomplishments. Most importantly, he is my good friend. Joseph, for all you have done for me, and for all you have done for the people of New Mexico; you have my utmost respect and deepest gratitude. Thank you, and keep up the good work, amigo.

TIME FOR IRAN TO COME CLEAN

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, when historians look back on American foreign policy in the early 21st century, they will ask a few basic questions. One will be whether we used our immense military strength wisely. Another will be whether we took effective action to avert genocide in the world. But the biggest question will be whether we did all we could to avert the use of weapons of mass destruction, and especially a nuclear catastrophe.

The resolution before us addresses one of the most sensitive nuclear non-proliferation issues of our day, that of Iran. Over the last 2 years, public allegations and International Atomic Energy Agency inspections have uncovered nearly two decades of covert nuclear programs that Iran has pursued in violation of its obligations under safeguards agreements with the IAEA.

While Iran insists publicly that these programs are all peaceful, all the signs and much of the political rhetoric in Iran point to a nuclear weapons program that has been conducted under the cover of peaceful nuclear activities.

Nearly a year ago, Iran promised to come clean on its nuclear programs and to suspend all its uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities. But Iran has yet to comply fully with its commitment. Instead, it has hidden some of its activities and forced IAEA inspectors to pull teeth in order to get information about its programs; it has delayed inspections and, at times, suspended all cooperation; it has continued production of components for uranium enrichment centrifuges; and it has announced an intent to test its uranium conversion facility in a manner that will produce feed material for uranium enrichment centrifuges. All those actions are violations of Iran's legal and political commitments.

More importantly, those actions suggest that Iran still has something to hide. They relate to nuclear activities that are difficult to explain as peaceful programs. Some of those actions relate to programs involving the same criminal network that aided Libya and provided it with a nuclear weapon design. And they are accompanied by political statements that suggest Iran may well want to develop nuclear weapons. If Iran wants to gain the confidence of the international community, that is certainly not the way to go about it.

I do not believe that Iran poses an imminent threat of testing or deploying nuclear weapons. There is hence no need at this time to threaten or undertake military action, and the resolution before us does not threaten, encourage or authorize such action.

Some journalists interpreted a similar resolution in the House of Representatives as authorizing military action, despite the denials of those who supported that resolution, including its co-author, Representative LANTOS of California. That is because the House resolution used the words "all appropriate means," which sounded too similar to previous resolutions on other issues that did authorize the use of force. To make it absolutely clear that the resolution before us does not do that, the authors of the substitute amendment have deleted the word "all" from that phrase. We do not intend this resolution to encourage the use of military force by any country.

Neither can any concurrent resolution authorize the use of force by the United States. Under our Constitution and under the War Powers Resolution, only legislation signed by the President can do that. A concurrent resolution has no legal effect and cannot do so.

What we do intend by this resolution is to encourage all countries to help convince Iran that its national security is best served by giving up the urge to develop a nuclear weapons capability. An Iran with nuclear weapons—or with the ability to produce

such weapons—will not be a more secure Iran. Rather, it will only prompt great concern among its neighbors and risk their developing nuclear weapons as well; and it will estrange itself from all countries that support the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty or that believe in keeping one's international obligations.

If Iran wants to understand what nuclear weapons will bring about, it can look to North Korea, which is reduced to begging and threatening the international community in order to feed its people and to provide even minimal energy resources. Those are the wages of proliferation: not security, but insecurity; not acclaim, but ostracism.

If the nations of the world—and especially the industrialized countries in Europe and elsewhere that have important trade relations with Iran—will band together to deliver this message, I believe that Iran will hear it and heed it. But the message may well have to be delivered with more than words. Countries may have to take forceful diplomatic and economic actions in order to demonstrate to Iran the risks that it runs if it insists upon building a nuclear weapons capability. The IAEA Board of Governors may well have to report Iran's noncompliance to the United Nations Security Council, and the Security Council may have to take action under Articles 39 through 41 of the United Nations Charter to encourage or order Iran to cease its programs that would contribute to building that nuclear weapons capability.

Countries can also remind Iran that concerns which may have prompted its covert nuclear programs are now largely dissipated. The Soviet Union is gone, and Russia does not threaten Iranian sovereignty. Saddam Hussein is now a criminal in the dock, rather than a dictator with imperial ambitions. And the case of Libya demonstrates that the United States will readily adjust its policy toward a country that renounces weapons of mass destruction and international terrorism. Iran's security concerns can be met—indeed, can best be met—without its developing or producing any weapons of mass destruction.

It is time that we have a serious discussion with Europe about harmonizing our policies toward Iran. Europe has pursued a strategy of offering positive incentives for Iran to change its behavior, but no penalties if it does not—effectively the reverse of U.S. policy. By coordinating more closely, the United States and Europe are more likely to affect Iran's actions. We should clearly state that if Iran ends its pursuit of a nuclear weapons program and gets out of the terrorism business, then we would be willing to change our policy of isolating and sanctioning Iran.

I hope that enactment of the resolution before us will help galvanize world attention to the threat of nuclear proliferation in Iran and to the need to convince Iran to change its ways. I

hope that it will also encourage Iran to choose the path of non-proliferation and base its future on engagement with the world, rather than increasing, self-imposed isolation.

I want to thank the original sponsors of S. Con. Res. 81, Senators FEINSTEIN and KYL, for their cooperation in developing a substitute text that we can all support. I believe that Representatives HYDE and LANTOS, whose H. Con. Res. 398 provided much guidance to us, will also find this text something that they can accept so as to achieve enactment of this important resolution. And I appreciate the work of their staffs over the past several weeks. My own staff and Chairman LUGAR's staff were also instrumental in bringing this work to what I believe will be a successful conclusion.

We have all been guided not by politics, but by the importance of the matter before us. When the issue is nuclear proliferation, uncountable innocent lives hang in the balance. On such an issue, the world must act as one.

Mrs. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the fires that are burning in my State of Alaska. To date, there are 117 active fires in Alaska that have burned over 3.8 million acres. That is larger than the entire State of Connecticut, and 11 of these fires started yesterday. This year is the 3rd most active fire season in Alaska since records have been kept, 1955.

Alaskans have been living with these fires since early June. All told there have been 479 of them since the start of fire season.

On Monday July 5, I visited the fire camp of the Boundary Fire, which was threatening residences north of Fairbanks, AK.

It rained while I was visiting the camp. Rain and changes in the winds can bring an abrupt end to fire season. I was hopeful that the change in weather would allow firefighters to put down the Boundary Fire in short order.

Unfortunately, it was not to be. Shortly after I left the fire camp, residents of the Haystack subdivision were told it was safe to return home. Just a few days ago, the Haystack subdivision was evacuated for the second time this summer. This evacuation affects 150 residents and 80 homes.

A total of 34 structures have been lost to the fires now burning in the State. Haze from the fires in the interior of Alaska is being experienced as far south as Juneau—that is a distance of about 800 miles.

The heroes of this fire season are the 2,711 firefighters: many from Alaska Native villages and others from the lower 48 who are working night and day to protect homes, private property, and subsistence resources. I am grateful to the coordinated efforts of the Alaska Fire Service and the State Division of Forestry for their tireless work in combating these fires. This week, the community of Fairbanks is celebrating "Golden Days"—their annual summer carnival. I don't know if any of the

firefighters will be able to break away from their duties to attend the parade on Saturday, but I can promise you that they will be warmly received by the residents of our Golden Heart City.

I want to commend the Federal fire managers for getting our Nation's aerial firefighting resources back in the air. We may have some differences of opinion about how long it took to accomplish this or how many planes are certified to fly, but I am prepared to leave this discussion for a future time.

The total aerial resources in Alaska include one federally certified heavy air tanker, two heavy air tankers under contract to the State of Alaska, three single-engine air tankers, and three CL 215's. These resources are prepositioned around the State to be used, when needed.

Thus far, the brave men and women on our fire lines have been successful in holding the fire away from primary residences—not only in and around Fairbanks, but also in rural communities like Chicken, Circle, Central, Eagle, Evansville, Tanacross, Galena, and Venetie.

The firefighters remind me that the proximity of the fires to people's homes creates a "teachable moment." The operative words are "be firewise." We need to all remember building defensible space around structures not only increases the likelihood that a building will survive a fire. It also increases safety to residents and our firefighters.

I want to reemphasize my strong support for the fuels reduction provisions of the President's Healthy Forest Initiative. This initiative is needed more than ever now. Our Nation's forestry policy has to allow for responsible forest management that includes the ability to remove, when appropriate, wild-fire fuel from forests. Deteriorating forest and rangeland health now affects more than 190 million acres nationwide, an area twice the size of California.

In Alaska, the damage caused by the spruce bark beetle, especially along the Kenai Peninsula has been devastating. Over 5 million acres of trees in south central and interior Alaska have been lost to insects over the last 10 years. Expedited fuel reduction treatment on Federal land on which the existence of disease or insect infestation is a critical provision in this new law.

In addition to treating our Federal lands, treating State and private lands is also important. Such lands benefit from the U.S. Forest Service's State and Private Forestry Program. As we know, wildland fires do not discriminate among land ownership patterns. On the Kenai Peninsula alone, State, native corporation, and private lands have beetle kill in addition to Federal lands on the Chugach and Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. There are still over 200,000 acres of untreated hazardous fuels within the Wildland-Urban

Interface, leaving many Alaskan communities at risk.

Another critical program is the Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP), which is part of the Farm Bill. This program helps communities and individuals to obtain grants for reforestation and thinning of lands impacted by beetle kill.

In Alaska alone, a total of 478 private landowners, along with 19 native corporations are eligible for FLEP funds for wildfire fuels reduction and timber stand improvements. Without this funding, eligible Alaskan landowners have no opportunity to make needed forest health improvements on their lands. The farm bill in 2002 authorized \$100 million from the Commodity Credit Corporation over a 5-year period ending in fiscal year 2007. Only a total of \$20 million was used for landowner cost-share and technical assistance in fiscal year 2003 with \$50 million transferred from FLEP to cover Forest Service wildfire suppression costs. While supporting wildfire suppression, we must and should utilize funding for those State and private forestry programs that aid communities in fuel reduction work to reduce these catastrophic wildfires we witness each year.

We must work across party lines to get the needed resources, recognizing fiscal responsibility, to all landowners to reduce fuel load. This is a responsibility for all of us in Congress.

SENATOR BOB DOLE AND THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, on Memorial Day, my wife Marcelle and I were honored to attend the dedication of the gleaming new World War II Memorial. This memorial is not only a testament to the sacrifice of the 16 million courageous men and women who served in that grand struggle, but, in some ways, it speaks to the tireless energy of our friend and former Senate majority leader, Bob Dole.

Senator Dole received a Purple Heart in Italy, yet never let the lingering effects of his very serious wounds stand in the way of his overall effectiveness and ability to lead the Senate. After he left office, he turned his special brand of energy and intelligence towards ensuring the completion of the new memorial. He helped raise awareness of the project across the country and was critical to helping gain congressional approval of the measure.

During the dedication, Senator Dole gave a moving tribute to his comrades-in-arms. These remarks helped give further context and meaning to the pillars, plaques, and fountains that make up this grand memorial.

I will ask to have these remarks included in the RECORD, and I implore all of my colleagues to take a few minutes to read this speech.

Today is a particularly fitting day to read Senator Dole's remarks, as today is his birthday. I want to wish my friend a very happy birthday.

I ask unanimous consent the speech be printed in the RECORD.

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

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE—NATIONAL WWII MEMORIAL DEDICATION, MAY 29, 2004

In the first week of January 1945, a hungry and lonesome second lieutenant from small town Kansas dispatched a message to his folks back home: "You can send me something to eat whenever you are ready," he wrote. "Send candy, gum, cookies, cheese, grape jelly, popcorn, nuts, peanut clusters, Vicks Vapo Rub, wool socks, wool scarf, fudge, cookies, ice cream, liver and onions, fried chicken, banana cake, milk, fruit cocktail, Swiss steaks, crackers, more candy, Lifesavers, peanuts, the piano, the radio, the living room suite, the record player and Frank Sinatra. I guess you might as well send the whole house if you can get it into a five-pound box. P.S., keep your fingers crossed."

In authoring that only slightly exaggerated wish list I merely echoed the longings of 16 million Americans whose greatest wish was for an end to the fighting. Sixty years on our ranks have dwindled for the thousands assembled here on the Mall and the millions more watching all across America in living rooms and hospitals and wherever it may be—our men and women overseas and our friends in Great Britain and our allies all around the world. Our final reunion cannot long be delayed.

Yet if we gather in the twilight it is brightened by the knowledge that we have kept faith with our comrades. Sustained by over 600,000 individual contributions, we have raised this memorial to commemorate the service and sacrifice of an entire generation. What we dedicate today is not a memorial to war, rather it's a tribute to the physical and moral courage that makes heroes out of farm and city boys and that inspires Americans in every generation to lay down their lives for people they will never meet, for ideals that make life itself worth living.

This is also a memorial to the American people who in the crucible of war forged a unity that became our ultimate weapon. Just as we pulled together in the course of a common threat 60 years ago, so today's Americans united to build this memorial. Small children held their grandfather's hand while dropping pennies in a collection box. Entire families contributed in memory of loved ones who could win every battle except the battle against time. I think of my brother, Kenny, and my brothers-in-law Larry Nelson and Allen Steel, just three among the millions of ghosts in navy blue and olive drab we honor with this memorial.

Of course, not every warrior wore a uniform. As it happens, today is the 101st birthday of Bob Hope, the GI's favorite entertainer who did more to boost our morale than anyone next to Betty Grable. And I can already hear Bob . . . "but I was next to Betty Grable." And it's hard to believe, but today is also the 87th birthday of John F. Kennedy, a hero of the south Pacific, who, a generation after the surrender documents were signed aboard the USS Missouri, spoke of a new generation of Americans tempered by war that was nevertheless willing "to pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty." And we shall always honor the memory of our great leader and our American hero, General Eisenhower, who led us to victory all across the world.

As we meet here today, young Americans are risking their lives in liberty's defense. They are the latest link in a chain of sacrifice older than America itself. After all, if

we met the test of our times, it was because we drew inspiration from those who had gone before, including the giants of history who are enshrined on this Mall, from Washington, who fathered America with his sword and ennobled it with his character . . . from Jefferson, whose pen gave eloquent voice to our noblest aspirations . . . from Lincoln, who preserved the Union and struck the chains from our countrymen . . . and from Franklin Roosevelt, who presided over a global coalition to rescue humanity from those who had put the soul itself in bondage. Each of these presidents was a soldier of freedom. And in the defining event of the 20th century, their cause became our cause. On distant fields and fathomless oceans, the skies over half the planet and in 10,000 communities on the home front, we did far more than avenge Pearl Harbor. The citizen soldiers who answered liberty's call fought not for territory, but for justice, not for plunder, but to liberate enslaved peoples around the world.

In contending for democracy abroad, we learned painful lessons about our own democracy. For us, the Second World War was in effect a second American revolution. The war invited women into the workforce. It exposed the injustice on African Americans, Hispanics and Japanese Americans and others who demonstrated yet again that war is an equal opportunity employer. What we learned in foreign fields of battle we applied in post-war America. As a result, our democracy, though imperfect, is more nearly perfect than in the days of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Roosevelt. That's what makes America forever a work in progress—a land that has never become, but is always in the act of becoming. And that's why the armies of democracy have earned a permanent place on this sacred ground.

It is only fitting when this memorial was opened to the public about a month ago the very first visitors were school children. For them, our war is ancient history and those who fought it are slightly ancient themselves. Yet, in the end, they are the ones for whom we built this shrine and to whom we now hand the baton in the unending relay of human possibility.

Certainly the heroes represented by the 4,000 gold stars on the freedom wall need no monument to commemorate their sacrifice. They are known to God and to their fellow soldiers, who will mourn their passing until the day of our own. In their names, we dedicate this place of meditation, and it is in their memory that I ask you to stand, if possible, and join me in a moment of silent tribute to remind us all that at sometime in our life, we have or may be called upon to make a sacrifice for our country to preserve liberty and freedom . . .

. . . God bless America.

U.S.-CENTRAL AMERICA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, just yesterday the Senate passed the U.S.-Morocco Free-Trade Agreement Implementation Act by a vote of 85 to 13. This followed on the heels of Senate approval of the U.S.-Australia agreement by a vote of 80 to 16. The Australia bill itself was preceded by renewal and extension of the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act, which passed the Senate by unanimous consent on June 24 of this year. Prior to that, the Senate was able to work out its differences and pass the JOBS Act by a vote of 92 to 5. I will note that each of these bills passed in an election