

Those in Alaska will never forget his support of our State. In 1981, Lloyd came to the floor and spoke in favor of a waiver that would enable the construction of the Alaska natural gas pipeline. Congress recently approved the financial incentives needed to begin this project—and we owe a great debt to Lloyd for always making sure those in the Senate never forgot how important the Alaska gas pipeline is to our country's energy independence.

Since Lloyd greatly respected the late House Speaker Sam Rayburn, I will close with one of Sam's sayings:

"You cannot be a leader, and ask other people to follow you, unless you know how to follow, too."

Mr. President, those are words to live by, and no one understood them better than Lloyd.

Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, I rise today to salute Lloyd Bentsen, a dearly departed former Member of this body. Senator Bentsen died yesterday at the age of 85, and he leaves behind a legacy of fiscal responsibility, steadfast service, and unwavering statesmanship.

Senator Bentsen was born in Mission, TX, in 1921, a descendant of Danish immigrants. From a young age, he excelled in nearly all his endeavors: he was an Eagle Scout, a distinguished graduate of the University of Texas Law School, and a fighter pilot, flying B-24 combat missions during World War II. At the young age of 23, Senator Bentsen was promoted to the rank of major, a post that gave him command of over 600 men. For his valiant service during the war, the Army Air Corps, now the Air Force, awarded him the Distinguished Flying Cross, one of the military's highest honors.

Senator Bentsen went on to serve the people of Texas as Hidalgo county judge, U.S. Congressman, and, beginning in 1970, as U.S. Senator. He was overwhelmingly reelected to this body three times, in 1976, 1982, and 1988.

As a Senator, Lloyd Bentsen was a champion of sound national economic policy and fiscal responsibility. He served as chairman of the Joint Economic Committee and the Committee on Finance, and balanced his keen eye on progressive causes such as women's rights with a dogged determination to cut taxes and support our Nation's businesses. As his contemporaries will no doubt attest, Senator Bentsen's political acumen was unmatched, and the coalitions he built crossed party, ideological, and even international boundaries.

Bentsen resigned his seat in the Senate in 1993 to serve as the 69th Secretary of the Treasury under President Bill Clinton. He helped President Clinton set the course for what would be our country's strongest fiscal climate in recent memory. As Treasury Secretary, Bentsen was known to be a firm and sound counselor on economic policy; the Houston Chronicle reports that an autographed picture from President Clinton was inscribed: "To my friend Lloyd Bentsen, who makes me study

things until I get it right." President Clinton went on to award Bentsen the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1999.

Throughout his career, Lloyd Bentsen set a standard for no-nonsense service, responsible business practice, and judicious public policy. I honor his good work today, and the memory of a life lived strong and full.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I had the honor of serving with Lloyd Bentsen for 20 years, and I respected him as a Senator's Senator. He had a style about him. He was this really classy Texas gentleman who, when he walked into this Chamber or into a hearing room, you could just feel his presence and his desire to work something out.

I admired him because he used the power of that office to help millions and millions of Americans, especially the people he felt needed it most, the very young and very old among us.

Everyone in America who has an IRA and is saving for retirement can thank Lloyd Bentsen. Every American worker whose pensions are protected, is because of Lloyd Bentsen. He improved access to health care for needy women and children—not with some massive sweeping bill that would never have passed Congress but, incrementally, every year, giving a new benefit so more and more people were helped.

When he went to Treasury, he was the architect of President Clinton's economic plan that eventually balanced the budget and created millions of jobs and brought credibility and leadership back to this country with other industrialized nations.

I express my sympathy to his family, and especially his wonderful wife B.A. He liked to call her his best asset, but she was an asset to all of us. Our prayers are with her.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE DANNY J. BOGGS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a Kentuckian who is one of the finest legal scholars of his generation. Danny J. Boggs, Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, has served on the bench for 20 years, and over the course of his stellar career he has made many friends and impressed all who know him—this Senator included.

Judge Boggs is renowned for having an engaging, active mind, with which he tackles not only the law but a host of other subjects. Well-read in history, geography, literature, mathematics, and political science, he is a true Renaissance man. And not only does he voraciously ingest knowledge, he loves to share it with others.

Ask any clerk or former clerk of Judge Boggs, and he or she will tell you: They are liable to be asked a question any time, on anything. One of his former clerks, who now works in my Washington office, recalls a time when Judge Boggs called in to the office while on a business trip to find out the

population of Montana not the present-day State but the Montana territory.

Judge Boggs delights in hiring clerks of any and all political persuasions, as long as they have a keen mind and are always ready for debate. Of course, these poor clerks know that Judge Boggs will almost always win. But his interest is not winning or losing. It is in ensuring that the final product—the legal brief—is as rigorous as it can be.

Judge Boggs is infamous for giving a trivia quiz to his clerkship applicants although perhaps "trivia" is not the right word for it. He prefers the term "general knowledge" test. But I don't think there is anything general about the scope of Judge Boggs's knowledge. Just listen to one question from a recent test of his: "If the moon were made of green cheese, and if green cheese floats in water, what is the most that the moon could weigh (within a factor of 10)?"

Believe it or not, most of Judge Boggs's clerks actually enjoy running this intellectual gauntlet—so much so that three of them appeared as contestants on the popular television game show "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire." Two of them picked Judge Boggs to be their "phone a friend" lifeline a superior mind to turn to for a particularly difficult question. Judge Boggs himself has tried to be a contestant on the show, so far without success, but I suspect his true calling may be to work for the show and write the questions.

Born in Havana, Cuba, Judge Boggs grew up in Bowling Green, KY, and earned his bachelor's degree from Harvard University in 1965. He earned his law degree in 1968 at the University of Chicago while being elected to Order of the Coif. After graduating, Judge Boggs taught at the University of Chicago Law School the following academic year—quite an accomplishment for a newly minted lawyer.

Judge Boggs answered the call of public service in several capacities before he attained his current post. After a few positions in Kentucky State government, he ventured to Washington, where he served as Assistant to the Solicitor General, Assistant to the Chairman of the Federal Power Commission, and Deputy Minority Counsel for the Senate Energy Committee. Judge Boggs also worked in private practice, in the White House as a Special Assistant to the President, and from 1983 to 1986 as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Energy.

President Ronald Reagan appointed Judge Boggs to his current position in 1986, and on October 1, 2003, Judge Boggs became the Chief Judge of the Sixth Circuit. Many times, his opinions have been upheld unanimously by the Supreme Court, both when he is written in the majority and in dissent.

He has taught American jurisprudence in the Soviet Union, the Commonwealth of Independent States, and Russia. Chief Justice of the United States William H. Rehnquist appointed Judge Boggs to several important posts

in the Judicial Conference of the United States, and Judge Boggs also served as chair of the Appellate Judges Conference of the American Bar Association from 2001 to 2002.

Judge Boggs entire career has been marked by energy, accomplishment, and scholarly brilliance. His fertile, polymath's mind has unlocked a love of learning in countless others. And his 20 years of distinguished service on the bench of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit has inspired us all. Mr. President, today I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Judge Danny J. Boggs for his 20 years on the bench and for his continued service to the law and his country.

INCLINE HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, from April 29 to May 1, 2006, approximately 1,200 students from across the country participated in the national finals competition of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution, an educational program developed to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. The We the People Program is administered by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education through an act of Congress.

During the 3-day competition, students from all 50 States demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles. The students testified before a panel of judges in a congressional hearing simulation focusing on constitutional topics. I am pleased to announce that Incline High School from Incline Village, NV, received the Western Region Award.

I had the chance to meet these bright young students from Incline High while they were here in Washington, DC. Of the many groups from Nevada that I have met with, I have rarely been asked such intelligent and thoughtful questions. I was impressed with their interest and knowledge of complex constitutional issues. These young students are an example of the future of America, and they should be commended for their hard work.

Mr. President, the names of these outstanding students from Incline High School are as follows: Kent Bergantz, Roxanne Casselberry, Dan Driver, Julie Gregory, Amy Hanna, Andrew Herr, Annie Horton, Alisa Johansson, Taylor Lane, Cara Langsfeld, Stephen McKay, Scott Nikkel, Courtney Pennacchio, Mia Perhacs, Tony Ring, Cara Sheehan, Ryan Spizman, Lara St. John, Christin Thompson, Shea Wickland, Alethia Williams, and Carly Wood.

I would also like to commend the teacher of the class, Milt Hyams, as well as the State coordinator, Marcia Stribling, and the district coordinators, Daniel Wong and Shane Piccinini, who have donated their time and energy to prepare these students for the national finals competition. Without the hard work and dedication of these

individuals, our students would have missed an amazing learning experience.

Mr. President and my colleagues in the Senate, please join me in congratulating these young constitutional experts for their outstanding achievement.

NATO AND IRAN

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to share with our colleagues remarks I have made recently at the Atlantic Council, the Council on Foreign Relations, and other forums regarding a role NATO should consider by joining others seeking to achieve a diplomatic resolution of the potential nuclear weapons threat posed by Iran.

I have long been, and remain to this day, a steadfast supporter of NATO. No alliance, since World War II, has achieved a more successful, steadfast record of achieving peace.

I applaud NATO for embracing the concept of "out of area" missions. In Iraq, despite continuing violence, a new unified government is emerging. Even with the differences of opinion among NATO nations related to Iraq, NATO did step forward to participate in the important mission of training Iraqi security forces.

There is no better example of NATO undertaking important "out of area" missions than the leadership NATO is providing in the International Security Assistance Force, ISAF, in Afghanistan.

Recently I was in Afghanistan and saw firsthand how ISAF is expanding its reach to provide security and stability throughout Afghanistan. ISAF forces are accepting risks in the face of a rising number of attacks, while the new Government forges ahead putting down roots of democracy so that Afghanistan can take its place among the free nations of the world.

The principal focus of my remarks today is on how NATO might respond to the greatest threat to regional and global stability that we face today: Iran.

I had the privilege this week to join Senator LUGAR and other Members in a private meeting with Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA. Dr. ElBaradei generously shared his insights on the situation with Iran, and how he continues to try to fulfill the responsibilities of his organization. I greatly respect his views.

I agree that when faced with a fork in the road between negotiation and confrontation, the world has rightly chosen, for the present, the path of negotiation. There is time—but not unlimited—to pursue a peaceful resolution to persuade Iran not to pursue steps leading to the development and acquisition of nuclear weapons.

Underway at this very moment are negotiations—the United States together with France, Great Britain, Germany, and other members of the EU, are doing everything to persuade Iran not to develop nuclear weapons.

The U.N. Security Council and the IAEA are also playing important roles in these diplomatic efforts.

Currently, Iran boasts about its inventory of missiles which can range throughout the Middle East and reach Europe. If Iran defies diplomacy and develops nuclear weapons, the threat will increase exponentially.

Free nations are and must face this reality now. As the Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert warned in his address to a joint session of Congress this morning:

A nuclear-armed Iran is an intolerable threat to the peace and security of the world. It cannot be permitted to materialize.

I support the principle of preserving as many options as possible in diplomacy.

One of those options is to engage in bilateral talks between the United States and Iran, and/or between one or more other nations that share our objectives and Iran.

Just this morning, the international press is reporting that the Iranian leadership is making serious overtures to the United States to initiate a bilateral dialogue. Dr. ElBaradei confirmed in our meeting with him that Iran is open to such a dialogue. The United States should keep this option on the table, and consider when it is timely to explore procedures for bilateral talks.

Iran needs to understand that the free nations of the world are serious. Iran can go ahead with its civil nuclear program, under the inspection regime of the IAEA, insofar as it relates to Iran's legitimate energy needs, but we will not, as a consortium of free nations, permit Iran to acquire a nuclear weapons capability.

Another option is deterrence. Let's reflect on the worst case scenario: If diplomacy did not succeed, at some point in time, and there is confirmation that Iran is defiantly going forward with a nuclear weapons program, what is the response of the team of nations conducting the diplomacy?

We should reflect on the lessons of the Cold War, when deterrence succeeded. We should consider erecting a "ring of deterrence" that would surround Iran and deter the use of actual force, as was done so successfully during the Cold War.

Initially, such a plan could be limited to a stand-off naval force operating in international waters, and a stand-off air capability in international airspace.

Has any organization had a better record for planning and effecting a policy of deterrence than NATO?

I call upon the North Atlantic Council of nations to discuss the option of deterrence and hopefully to initiate a study of what is a logical sequence of actions to show support to the path of negotiation.

Such a step forward would give NATO a place at the international table as a partner in the diplomatic efforts being pursued by the IAEA, the