

to all Americans. We have the opportunity and the obligation to write global warming policy that is sustainable, equitable, beneficial, both domestically and globally, both environmentally and economically. We can do that. We can write a bill to do that. We can write a law to do that or we can settle for a work that I believe is still in progress.

I cannot settle and could not settle a moment ago in my vote for this legislation because it needlessly may hurt my State because it fails to protect against what could be a policy that exports emissions rather than eliminating emissions.

I submitted five amendments to this bill that were designed to produce a final bill that would combat global warming without undermining American families, without hurting families from Galion to Gallipolis, from Cincinnati to Ashtabula. Unfortunately, after today's cloture vote, there was no opportunity to debate and vote on those amendments. Given the chance, I would have fought to redistribute the financial burden imposed by this bill so Ohio would receive a fair share, rather than the short end of the stick.

I would have fought to provide sufficient transition assistance for energy-intensive manufacturing so our Nation does not lose those crucial national-security oriented, in many cases, crucial jobs. I would have fought to ensure domestic manufacturers a level playing field with companies from countries without global warming requirements.

A plant shuts down in Steubenville or Lima, OH, a plant that has followed Ohio and national environmental law over the years, and moves to China. We lose our jobs, and emissions get even greater because the Chinese do not have the environmental laws we do. That is part of the problem with U.S. trade policy. That is another time for another speech and another day. But if we don't take this right step to ensure domestic manufacturers a level playing field with companies from countries without global warming requirements, we might as well throw a going-away party for the steel industry, the cement industry, the glass industry, aluminum industry, the chemical industry, for foundry after foundry after foundry in Ravenna, Chillicothe, Mansfield, and Marion. We might as well pray for a miracle when it comes to global warming because as we export those jobs to countries that have weak environmental laws, we will be exporting emissions so they come in quantities of twice as much from smokestacks in China than they come from smokestacks in Ohio.

I would have fought for greater capital investment in emerging green businesses and manufacturing. We need to go green to achieve our goals. We need to rebuild our manufacturing sector to remain a self-sufficient nation and the strongest economy on the planet.

We can pass legislation that can be a jobs legislation, energy legislation, en-

vironmental legislation if we do the right thing and encourage our companies and our investors to build solar panels and solar cells, to build fuel cells, to build wind turbines, to move forward on all the kinds of biomass energy production that we know how to do in this country.

Why wouldn't we invest in the research, infrastructure, job training, and the commercialization needed to secure our independence from foreign oil, to fight global warming, to revitalize our economy? Mr. President, why wouldn't we?

I would have fought for resources to help coal communities diversify their economies. If we ignore these communities, we breed poverty. Go with me to southeast Ohio and look at the number of people who are lining up in food pantries, lining up for food to get through the week, to get through the month, to get through the winter and now the spring, as most people in those families hold jobs, often full time, often part time. They don't pay enough because of what has happened to coal miners and what has happened to industry in southeast Ohio.

We, in moral terms and practical terms, cannot let that happen. If we ignore these communities, as I said, we breed more poverty. That is not a prediction, that is a fact.

I was not given the opportunity to offer my amendments. I will have the opportunity to push for legislation that capitalizes on our Nation's strengths, that leaves a legacy of which we can be proud for future generations.

We can do it, we must do it, and with Senator BOXER's leadership, we will do it.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

64TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise for two purposes. One is to speak for a couple minutes about today's anniversary of D-day and then also to talk about a Pennsylvanian who lost his life in Iraq and was this week awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. I, first, wish to speak about D-day.

We observe this anniversary today, 64 years, but we have to think today about how we do that. We know what happened on D-day. For so many Americans, prior to just a number of years ago, it was a piece of history we read about in the history books. We learned a bit about it in school, but for a new generation of Americans, D-day has meant what we saw in the movie "Saving Private Ryan." Thank goodness for that film because it captured so much of the horror, so much of the sacrifice and the valor of our troops.

So we remember those Americans who gave their lives that day to save the world—literally to save the world from the horror that could have befallen the world if the axis powers were

successful, and if D-day did not go as well as it did, they might have been successful.

I am remembering today not just a generation of Americans, the "greatest generation" of Americans as we know them now, who sacrificed so much, but I am thinking of people from my home State. I think Pennsylvania had more Medal of Honor winners in World War II than any other State. One of them was in my home area, Lackawanna County, Geno Merli, who served in Europe, in that theater of the war, and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and passed away a couple of years ago. So when I think of D-day, and I think of those sacrifices, I am thinking of heroes such as Geno Merli and so many others who gave the ultimate sacrifice. His Medal of Honor pertained to his combat not on D-day but in a related theater of war.

We think about those who came back. We think about those who served and came back, many of them wounded permanently and irreparably, just as we see today with some of our troops in Iraq, and it brings to mind Abraham Lincoln's words in two contexts. One is the context of those who have served. He talked about the soldier—him who has borne the battle—that we must care for him who has borne the battle. And I think one way to honor those who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan or around the world or in wars like World War II is to remember something my father said years ago when he was serving as Governor of Pennsylvania, and he talked about praying for our troops, as important as that is, but he also talked about praying for ourselves; that we may be worthy of their valor.

I believe the only way we can be worthy of the valor of those who served in World War II on D-day or served in Iraq or Afghanistan or anywhere around the world—in Vietnam, in the Korean War, whatever the conflict was—we can't just honor them by remembering and commemorating and talking about battles and all of the information that we can impart about war. We have to, if we are going to be worthy of their valor, do the right thing today, not just when we commemorate D-day but every day.

There are at least two things we can do to pay tribute to those who served and to be worthy of their valor. One way is to make sure those who survive a war and come back to the United States have not just some health care but the best health care. And we have to fund it. Fortunately, in the last two budgets we have been doing that. We have been meeting or exceeding the budget on veterans health care.

The second thing we must do, at the very least, is make sure anyone who serves in combat has an opportunity to be educated as best we can provide. That is why the vote on the GI bill recently was so essential, so central to meeting that basic obligation, so caring, as Abraham Lincoln said, for

him—and increasingly her—who has borne the battle, and making sure they have an education.

Today, when we remember the service of those who gave their lives, and in some cases gave sacrifice and survived D-day, I think we have to meet the obligation that service imposes on us in the Senate and as citizens.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST ROSS A. MCGINNIS

Mr. CASEY. Finally, I want to speak for a couple of moments about a Pennsylvanian. As I have mentioned before, there are more World War II Medal of Honor winners from Pennsylvania than anywhere else. We did some research, and you can go down the list of people who have served from Pennsylvania, who have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, and we note that 378 Pennsylvanians have received the Medal of Honor out of about 3,467 overall, so a high percentage.

We had 25 Medal of Honor winners from World War II and in Operation Iraqi Freedom; one is the person I want to spend a couple of moments talking about. Operation Iraqi Freedom has only four, I am told, four Medal of Honor winners across the Nation, so Pennsylvania has one of those four, and his name is Specialist Ross A. McGinnis, 1st Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a two-page document entitled, "The Story of PFC Ross A. McGinnis," as well as a news story from the Pittsburgh Post Gazette from this week.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I will not read all of it, but I wanted to read the description of his sacrifice and the reason he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, so rare for any soldier to be so awarded. Here is part of the official report. This is December 4, 2006.

During the course of the patrol, an unidentified insurgent positioned on a rooftop nearby threw a fragmentation grenade into the Humvee. Without hesitation or regard for his own life, McGinnis threw his back over the grenade, pinning it between his body and the Humvee's radio mount. McGinnis absorbed all lethal fragments and the concussive effects of the grenade with his own body. McGinnis, who was a private first class at the time, was posthumously promoted to specialist. Specialist McGinnis's heroic actions and tragic death are detailed in the battlescape section of this website and in his Medal of Honor Citation.

He was a young man from Knox, PA, 19 years old, when he gave, as Abraham Lincoln also said, "The last full measure of devotion to his country." And I have used that line a lot because it applies so well to those who have given their lives in Iraq or Afghanistan and other places around the world, but at

no time—at no time—that I have used that line from Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address has it applied better than it does in this instance, for Ross. A McGinnis, 19 years old, born June 14, 1987, in Meadville, PA, though he grew up in Knox, PA. He was a 2005 graduate of Keystone Junior-Senior High School, and his parents were with President Bush this week when he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

So we are thinking of him today, on D-day, but we should make sure those memories we have of his service, and all those who have served in any conflict, be the inspiration for our hard work in the Senate, to make sure we are doing everything we can to earn the valor they gave so heroically for our country. And that has to be about making sure our troops are given what they need when they are on the battlefield, but also ensuring that when they come home, the help doesn't stop at the shoreline; that they are given the best health care and the best educational opportunities.

So, Mr. President, I will conclude with this: We pay tribute to those who have served our country, especially today, in remembering those who served on D-day, but in a special way we are thinking of Ross A. McGinnis, his service, his sacrifice, and we are praying for his family.

EXHIBIT 1

THE STORY OF PFC ROSS A. MCGINNIS

1ST PLATOON, C COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 26TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 2ND BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

Spc. McGinnis' dedication to duty and love for his fellow Soldiers were embodied in a statement issued by his parents shortly after his death:

"Ross did not become our hero by dying to save his fellow Soldiers from a grenade. He was a hero to us long before he died, because he was willing to risk his life to protect the ideals of freedom and justice that America represents. He has been recommended for the Medal of Honor . . . That is not why he gave his life. The lives of four men who were his Army brothers outweighed the value of his one life. It was just a matter of simple kindergarten arithmetic. Four means more than one. It didn't matter to Ross that he could have escaped the situation without a scratch. Nobody would have questioned such a reflex reaction. What mattered to him were the four men placed in his care on a moment's notice. One moment he was responsible for defending the rear of a convoy from enemy fire; the next moment he held the lives of four of his friends in his hands. The choice for Ross was simple, but simple does not mean easy. His straightforward answer to a simple but difficult choice should stand as a shining example for the rest of us. We all face simple choices, but how often do we choose to make a sacrifice to get the right answer? The right choice sometimes requires honor."

Ross Andrew McGinnis was born June 14, 1987 in Meadville, PA. His family moved to Knox, northeast of Pittsburgh, when he was three. There he attended Clarion County public schools, and was a member of the Boy Scouts as a boy. Growing up he played basketball and soccer through the YMCA, and Little League baseball. Ross was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Knox, and

a 2005 graduate of Keystone Junior-Senior High School.

Ross's interests included video games and mountain biking. He was also a car enthusiast, and took classes at the Clarion County Career Center in automotive technology. He also worked part-time at McDonald's after school.

His mother, Romaine, said Ross wanted to be a Soldier early in life. When asked to draw a picture of what he wanted to be when he grew up, Ross McGinnis, the kindergarten, drew a picture of a Soldier.

On his 17th birthday, June 14, 2004, Ross went to the Army recruiting station and joined through the delayed entry program.

After initial entry training at Fort Benning, Georgia, McGinnis was assigned to 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment in Schweinfurt, Germany. According to fellow Soldiers, he loved Soldiering and took his job seriously, but he also loved to make people laugh. One fellow Soldier commented that every time McGinnis left a room, he left the Soldiers in it laughing.

The unit deployed to Eastern Baghdad in August 2006, where sectarian violence was rampant. Ross was serving as an M2 .50 caliber machine gunner in 1st Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment in support of operations against insurgents in Adhamiyah, Iraq.

According to the official report, on the afternoon of Dec. 4, 2006, McGinnis' platoon was on mounted patrol in Adhamiyah to restrict enemy movement and quell sectarian violence. During the course of the patrol, an unidentified insurgent positioned on a rooftop nearby threw a fragmentation grenade into the Humvee. Without hesitation or regard for his own life, McGinnis threw his back over the grenade, pinning it between his body and the Humvee's radio mount. McGinnis absorbed all lethal fragments and the concussive effects of the grenade with his own body. McGinnis, who was a private first class at the time, was posthumously promoted to specialist. Spc. McGinnis's heroic actions and tragic death are detailed in the battlescape section of this website and in his Medal of Honor Citation.

Army Decorations: Medal of Honor (to be presented to Tom and Romaine McGinnis at a June 2, 2008 White House Ceremony), Silver Star (awarded for valor exhibited during the events of Dec. 4, 2006, pending processing and approval of Medal of Honor), Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and Combat Infantryman Badge.

[From the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette]
(By Milan Simonich)

MEDAL OF HONOR PRESENTED TO FAMILY OF A HERO

WASHINGTON.—President Bush yesterday awarded the Medal of Honor to a fallen Clarion County soldier, calling him an ordinary guy who did the extraordinary to save the lives of four buddies in Iraq.

Spc. Ross McGinnis used his body to cover a grenade that an insurgent threw from a rooftop into an Army Humvee. By turning himself into a human shield, he gave his life to protect the other men in his crew.

Mr. Bush presented the Medal of Honor, America's highest military decoration, to Tom and Romaine McGinnis, parents of the 19-year-old soldier. About 300 people—including the four soldiers who survived the grenade blast—attended the ceremony in the East Room of the White House. It ended with everybody standing and applauding for Spc. McGinnis.