

Now, I do not have a magic solution. I have only been here in the Senate for about a year and a half, so these are issues I am engaging in for the first time over the last year, but here are my opinions given what I have learned in the first 2 years I have been here, some points I would like to make.

The first is that we should expect more. We should expect more from leaders in the region. We should expect Mursi and the Muslim Brotherhood and others to stand up to people and say: Look, we understand you are upset about this video, but you do not have the right to burn down an embassy. By the way, in America the government does not control these videos. Anyone can make a YouTube video. They are a free society.

No. 2, we should expect them to say the same things in Arabic as they are saying in English. Do not express condolences and outrage in English on the attack against America but in Arabic completely ignore it and only talk about the YouTube video.

We should expect more from them. They want a true partnership. They want American and Western aid. They want tourists to return. They want economic interchange between our two countries. We should expect more from them.

Here is the second point. This stuff is not happening because of a video, because people are upset. You know what, let me explain something to you. For radical Islam, our entire culture is offensive. They are not just offended about a YouTube video. They are offended that women serve in the Senate. They are offended that women drive. They are offended that little girls get to go to school. In some of these countries, converting to Christianity is punishable by death. So our whole culture is offensive to them, not just a YouTube video.

Here is the third point we have to accept. This is a critical moment not just for America, this is a critical moment for the Muslim world, where they have to decide what kind of future they want for themselves. Is this the future they want, a future isolated from the world, a future isolated from the promises of the 21st century, or do they want a different future? I know there are millions of people in the Muslim world who do not want this future, but they are afraid to speak up. They are intimidated from speaking up because of these radical forces that need to be defeated.

This brings me to my last point. We need to be very clear. We will support those who want a better future, like we should have supported the Green Revolution in Iran when brave young Iranians took to the streets to protest a fraudulent election, and instead of taking their side, the President disengaged and said nothing. We will support those who want a new future and a better future for their region. We are not asking them to abandon their religion or their beliefs, but they have to respect ours.

We are not asking them to walk away from the Koran, but they have to respect our beliefs and tolerate our beliefs as well. We will support those who are willing to do that. We want to work with them. It benefits no one to have violence and destruction in the region. But we also have to accept the hard cold fact that there are people, there are radical Islamists in that part of the world with whom you can never and will never be able to reason. They are never going to change their minds. They are never going to come around. They are never going to one day all of a sudden change their behavior because we engaged them more, because we give more speeches at their universities. They are radical Islamists, violent people. It is a very clear choice: Either they win or we win. And the sooner we accept that, the better off we are going to be.

So we have to accept that on the one hand there are millions of people in that region who want a new and better future. We will side with them. We will support their aspirations. We will work with their hopes for civilian leadership and peace and economic prosperity. But for those who are radical Islamists, whose view is they want to conquer and bring under their control everyone who is not who they are, we have to defeat them. I wish it weren't the case, but it is. And the sooner we accept that, the clearer our policies are going to be.

So this is not just a critical moment for America in our foreign policy; this is a critical moment for them as well, for they are going to have to decide. If Egypt truly wants a better future for their people, one where their economy is growing and prosperous and young people can fulfill their aspirations, they are going to have to unequivocally reject this type of stuff or they will be trapped in the 18th century forever.

In Libya, they are trying to cooperate with us. They are allowing us to move forward. We should work with them and strengthen them, not abandon them.

And I didn't mention Pakistan, but that is important too. Let me just say that I think it is outrageous that doctor is being held there. I believe every charge against him is trumped up, and I think we should demand—I think it is right to condition some, if not all, of our foreign aid and cooperation with Pakistan on his status and on his release. So I hope Senator PAUL and those who support his amendment will consider, at a minimum, restructuring that amendment to recognize there is a difference between Libya and Egypt and that we should take different approaches in that regard; that we have a right to be outraged; that we have a right to be angry, but we should never abandon being smart.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mrs. HAGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 15 minutes as in morning business.

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

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CORPORAL DARRION TERRELL HICKS, PETTY OFFICER SECOND CLASS SEAN E. BRAZAS, LANCE CORPORAL CHRISTOPHER PHOENIX JACOB LEVY

Mrs. HAGAN. Mr. President, 11 years have now passed since the attacks of September 11, that horrific day that forever changed the world. Although we have killed Osama bin Laden, the fight against the al-Qaida militants is not over. Al-Qaida remains a threat to America, and the brave men and women of our Armed Forces are still fighting every day to protect our way of life.

Mr. President, I want us to honor and think about these men and women. There are over 77,000 U.S. servicemembers deployed in Afghanistan right now who remain in harm's way. These men and women willingly joined the military during a time of war. They want nothing more than to serve our country. They fight for our way of life so we don't have to and so that our children and grandchildren will not have to.

I am going to highlight three servicemen from North Carolina who have made the ultimate sacrifice. I have personally spoken with their families, and I want to share their great love of country with you because it is so important that all Americans understand our military and their families who sacrifice so much for all of us.

From my home State of North Carolina alone there are more than 6,000 of our finest sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, moms and dads deployed in Afghanistan. They are the men and women of the II Marine Expeditionary Force, 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, and 2nd Marine Logistics Group from Camp Lejeune and Cherry Point. They are the men and women of the 82nd Airborne Division from Fort Bragg. They are the men and women from the National Guard and Reserve Units from North Carolina. And they are the thousands of other soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines deployed to foreign lands to stand watch over the world and keep us safe.

Sometimes I feel as if the war is hardly an issue in the news, in daily life, anywhere, except for those who are personally affected by it. Our focus is too often drawn to the news of the elections, of the economy, of politics, of celebrities, of scandals, of the rich and famous, and of the simply bizarre. We do not hear enough about the brave souls who have lost their lives while trying to make the world safer for the rest of us, who willingly joined the military during a time of war, who want to serve our country.

We all need to pay respect, to honor, and to remember the very men and women whose commitment, dedication, and courage are what make our country safe and to respect and remember the families they left behind.

As we scale down our presence in Afghanistan and bring our service men

and women home, we must remember every day this war is still going on, and it is occurring at a tremendous cost—a cost that is disproportionately paid by the brave men and women who are fighting for the rights and privileges we enjoy.

These men and women traded their youth, and they have spent years away from family and friends. They voluntarily put their lives on the line for their friends, for their loved ones, their country, and for people they have never met—for me and for you. These men and women are the almost 50,000 wounded in action since the start of this war. They are the 336 U.S. servicemembers who have died just this past year. They are the 54 coalition forces who died in the month of August alone. They are strangers to most of us, but they are the most important person in the world to someone. They are selfless defenders of our freedom, many of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice, and many of whom are from my home State of North Carolina.

They are people such as CPL Darrion Terrell Hicks, U.S. Army, from Raleigh, NC, who died July 19, 2012, just 2 months ago. Darrion was a 2009 graduate of Broughton High School, where he was a standout student who was loved and respected by all.

Darrion always wanted to be a soldier. It was a goal he set early on and something that everyone remembers about him. It was a goal he pursued with diligence and honor. He was a model Junior ROTC student who was voted Mr. Junior ROTC by his peers. Darrion is remembered as the kind of young man a teacher wishes all of their students were like. He was a boy you wanted your children to be friends with. He became the kind of man we should all be so thankful to have in this world.

When I was speaking with his mom Tracy, she shared with me that he was the kind of boy who never gave her a problem, ever.

Corporal Hicks achieved his goal of becoming a soldier when he enlisted in the Army after graduating from high school. He loved the Army, and it seemed he had found his place in life. He loved his family, and he kept in close contact with his mother. Whenever he spoke with his mom, she would always tell him: “Always pray. Be safe. I love you.” To which he would respond: “I am going to be fine. I love you, too.”

This year, Darrion was serving with the 54th Engineer Battalion, 18th Engineer Brigade as a sapper. Sappers are responsible for clearing the way for others, making the way safe for those who follow. This is what Corporal Hicks was doing when he was killed by an enemy IED. He was only 21 years old.

As one of his teachers at Broughton said:

When we talk about Darrion, we are not talking about a teacher making an impact on a student. We’re talking about a student who made an impact on the teacher.

Corporal Hicks made an impact on everyone he touched, and I think we all have something to learn from him and the life he chose to lead.

There are people such as PO2 Sean E. Brazas, U.S. Navy, from Greensboro, NC, where I have lived for the last 30 years. Sean died on May 30, 2012. Sean was your all-American boy next door. He grew up playing soccer in the same traveling soccer league in which my son played, and Sean was on the swim team.

Sean graduated from Western Guilford High School, and he could have done anything, but he wanted to do something important with his life. Sean Brazas joined the Navy after graduation and became a dog handler. He was stationed at Naval Base Kitsap in Washington State, where he met the love of his life, Allie, who was also in the Navy. When Sean met Allie, being the southern gentleman he was, he held the door open for her at the post office when they first met. Putting others first was just how he lived his life.

Sean Brazas loved being a dog handler and loved being in the Navy. His wife is now a 23-year-old widow with a young daughter Addison, whom Sean nicknamed Short-stack. They were the center of his world. His life as a sailor, devoted husband, and loving dad was rich and full and tragically short.

Petty Officer Brazas had only been in Afghanistan a short time when he died on May 30 while helping a fellow servicemember get into a helicopter when their unit was ambushed. That seems to define Sean—a man who selflessly did what he could to help others.

Sean Brazas served his country proudly because he appreciated the rights and privileges that Americans are fortunate to enjoy. He wanted to make sure his daughter never had to worry about anyone telling her what books she could read or where she could go to school or what she could become. He wanted his mom, dad, wife, and daughter to be safe.

He died a hero and now rests at Arlington with his grandfather and friends who have left the world far too soon. He died a man his dad Ed looked up to. Ed told me he hopes to be half the man his son was.

There are people such as LCpl Christopher Phoenix Jacob Levy, U.S. Marine Corps, from Ramseur, NC, who died September 10, 2011.

On 9/11, Jacob had just turned 11 years old. He had gotten a bloody nose at school, and his mom Amanda was called to bring him a change of clothes. She shared with me she was driving to his school when she heard on the radio of the first plane hitting the World Trade Center. When Amanda explained what had happened to Jacob that night, she said Jacob then said he would be in the military. He was only 11 years old at the time.

Jacob joined the Junior ROTC at Eastern Randolph High School where he was a standout runner and wrestler. He was also a proud active member of

the Lumbee Tribe. That is why he has the name Phoenix, from his Indian heritage. It stands for immortality and renewal.

In 2009, Jacob fulfilled the goal he set in 2001. He enlisted in the Marine Corps and graduated from boot camp. He planned on being a marine for 20 years, retiring, and then returning to his hometown to give back to the JROTC in his community. It is clear from an early age Jacob was driven to be a part of something more than himself, to do his part for the greater good. That was just how he lived his life.

Lance Corporal Levy deployed to Afghanistan with the 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines and returned home from his first tour on Mother’s Day of 2011. However, Jacob told his mom his job was not yet done; that he needed to return to his brothers in arms in Afghanistan. He then volunteered to deploy again in the fall of 2011, this time with the 1st Battalion, 6th Marines out of Camp Lejeune. It was during this deployment he was mortally wounded by a single enemy shot. He was only 21 years old.

A couple of weeks before he died, Jacob spoke with his mother for the last time. He told her not to worry about him. He asked for underwear and beef jerky. He asked her to tell everyone he loved them. Jacob left his mom, dad, stepdad and two brothers.

Jacob’s Indian name Phoenix, for immortality and renewal, has proven a worthy namesake for him. Although his life was tragically short, he lives on in the lives he touched. He inspired a scholarship at his high school that will go to help others, and he was an organ donor. He helped save seven other people he had never met. He gave the loved ones of those seven strangers more time with their parent, spouse, child, or sibling.

His death resulted in an outpouring of love and support for the Levy family from the Marines of both the 3rd, 8th, and 1-6. As Jacob’s mother told me: “I may have lost one son, but I gained 30 others.” To this day, those young men who served with Lance Corporal Levy continue to remember and look after her.

These are the people who are paying both your share and my share of the cost of freedom. These servicemembers gave their lives for us and for our country. We must not forget them: Darrion Hicks, Sean Brazas, and Jacob Levy. We must not forget their families.

We must not forget the men and women still deployed in harm’s way. They come from our small towns, our big cities, and our rural areas. They are our neighbors, they are our fellow Americans, they are our heroes, and they are my fellow North Carolinians. To these men and women, to their families, we owe an eternal debt of gratitude. May God bless them, and may God bless America.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WHITEHOUSE). The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, something unusual is happening in Congress. Democrats and Republicans are agreeing on something; we appear headed toward same goal.

The problem is, what we are agreeing on is more business as usual in Washington. They want to pass yet another continuing resolution instead of a real budget solution. I can almost hear the people back home and all over this country saying, There they go again.

I can argue this both ways. A continuing resolution will let the government limp along again for another 6 months. That way, we can go home now and come back after election to fix the budget.

I haven't had anybody in West Virginia tell me that we should hurry home to campaign. I have had plenty of them tell me that we need to stay here and do the job they hired us to do. And that means fixing the budget, because our debt is piling up every day and it is choking our economy.

These continuing resolutions are supposed to be temporary, but it looks to me as though they have become a permanent way of doing business here in Congress. And let me tell you, it is a bad way of doing business. It ignores the dire circumstances of a record \$16 trillion of national debt that will increase close to \$1 trillion a year if we don't balance our annual budget, and do it soon. It makes me think of the goofy kid on the cover of *Mad Magazine*, Alfred E. Neuman, "What? Me worry?"

I came to the Senate not quite 2 years ago, and in the time I have been here there have been 12 of these continuing resolutions. There were three in December of 2010. In 2011 there were two in March, two in April, two in September, one in November, and three in December. Now we are being asked to pass another CR to keep things going a little bit longer, for 6 more months, so we can all go home—that is the problem—so we can all go home and worry about our elections, and we are going to worry about this country's growing debt later. We have got to get home first.

Well, a baker's dozen is one too many for me. Enough is enough. I can't vote for this measure to simply kick the can any farther down the road. It can't go on. The people of West Virginia didn't send me here or send the Presiding Officer from the great State of North Carolina to do that. They sent us here to help fix our budget problems with bipartisan commonsense solutions.

That is the way we did it in West Virginia when I was Governor. We didn't pull these kinds of stunts on West Virginians. We stayed on the job until the work was done. We wouldn't leave. We stayed and worked. If it was all through the night, we would stay. If it was an extra day or an extra week, we would stay and get our work done. We came together to make decisions on what was best for our State, not best for us individually. It is time we do the same here in Washington.

We have to stop putting off what we need to do to get our fiscal house in order. It is time to cancel the flights home, it is time to roll up our sleeves and get down to the people's business, because we have reached a dangerous point in our history—a point in which our debt is threatening not just our economic standing in the world but also our national security.

I know everybody expects that we will come back after elections in a lameduck session, and we are going to rush to fix all of our fiscal problems at the last minute. But if Congress's past performance is any indication of what to expect after the election, I wouldn't expect too much. That is a shame. A lameduck session of Congress is cutting it pretty close, because we have gotten ourselves into a real bind.

The so-called fiscal cliff is real. We are looking at over \$5 trillion of economic swing by the end of this year, December 31, coming up to January 1. One part of that is sequestration. I think we all remember the sequestration. That was a penalty we put on ourselves if the supercommittee did not do their job. Well, the supercommittee wasn't that super. It didn't work out the way we all thought it would. It means that what we have to do is take painful cuts. Because we said if we make the penalty strong enough and great enough, we will definitely come to the table and fix the financial problems. But we didn't do it. That was a year ago. We could have been working and fixing all that between, but here we come down to last minute and we are asking for 6 more months.

These are the kinds of meat axe spending cuts—and I will talk about that. I never did put budgets together that were across-the-board cuts. If you had to cut, you looked at it. Government can do two things with your money: It can spend your money or it can invest your money. We have done a poor job of investing. We have done a great job of spending the money. That has got to reverse and change. We can't just say, Well, across-the-board cuts. We have to look and find out and put forth priorities based on our values. And you shouldn't cut where investments should be made, but overall there will be a reduction. That can happen.

Some of our congressional leaders who put together the sequestering in order to force us are now acting as though, We really didn't mean it. It really wasn't sincere about we should do this. We knew we couldn't do it, but it sounded good back then because we really thought we would do so. Can you think what would happen to the confidence of the people in this country if we don't do what we said we were going to do? It is not a smart way to run this country.

Then they talk about cutting the defense budget. Oh, that can't be done. That can't be done. We want to make sure we have the strongest and toughest. And every one of us here supports

our military to the hilt. Every man and woman in uniform should have the best equipment, the best training, and the best support this country can give them. But when you look at the ballooning costs of what has happened to our Department of Defense, most of the money spent on contracting, most of the increases on contracting—people doing the same job making three and four and five times more than a man or woman in uniform? That is not right. And they are telling me, We can't cut it? Oh, no. If we do that, you are not strong for America.

Well, I have said this: The automatic cuts go into effect January 2, as we know. Our national security budget is still over \$600 million in 2013. That is more than we had in 2006, at the height of the Iraq war. In fact, even after the automatic cuts, the United States will still account for 40 percent of all military spending in the world. Forty percent of all the military spending is by our country. I promise you, we are going to make sure that America keeps the strongest defense in the world.

I have been in this body for 2 years. One of the most sobering moments I have ever had, I am sitting on the Armed Services Committee learning, as the Presiding Officer and everyone else, about the dangers we face around the world and the threats to the United States of America. The question was asked to then-Chairman ADM Mike Mullen, What is the greatest threat America faces? I am thinking I am going to hear about all the different North Africa problems we have, Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran, and on and on. He didn't hesitate, he didn't waiver. He said, "The debt of this Nation is the greatest threat we face as America." He wasn't worried about our military might. He wasn't worried about a terrorist attack. He was worried about us coming apart from within.

That was perhaps my most sobering moment since coming to the Senate. And when you have the highest ranking officer of the world's most powerful military that history has ever recorded, I think you should take that seriously. I did. That alone should give everyone in Congress a sense of urgency and doing something about our out-of-whack spending. And it truly is out of whack.

If anybody is betting that we can fix our finances in a lameduck session of Congress, I will remind them that some people made the same bet on the supercommittee last year. That didn't work out too well.

In fact, we are about to leave town with a lot of unfinished work. We are not just unsure about our finances, and it is not just about finances. The 112th Congress—and I am ashamed to say this—is one of the least productive Congresses in the history of this country in terms of passing new laws. The Congress we are in right now, the 112th, passed only 173 public laws as of last month. As you recall, in our history books, President Harry Truman—who

dubbed the 80th Congress as the do-nothing Congress—passed 906 bills. I don't even know if he would have a definition of what we have done.

So a do-nothing Congress is something I am not proud of. It is clear to me that betting on Congress getting religion after the election is also a risky gamble—a gamble with America's future, a gamble with the next generation. We tried that with the supercommittee, but it failed. That is the reason we are here today facing the fiscal cliff. The sunset of the Bush tax cuts, the tax extenders, the end of emergency unemployment benefits, sequestration, those are all meat axe cuts, and we know that.

The Congressional Budget Office says the fiscal cliff could cut the GDP by 4 percentage points next year and send the economy back right into a recession. Look at the time we have wasted. The supercommittee fell apart almost 1 year ago, and yet here we are. Instead of voting on a real and permanent solution to our financial problems, we are getting ready to vote on yet another temporary measure that will allow us to leave before we have addressed a single one of these most critical issues.

What has happened since the supercommittee shut down with no agreement? One thing that has happened is our long-term national debt has topped \$16 trillion a couple weeks ago. That is a figure that is almost impossible to wrap your mind around. But I think you can wrap your mind around this: Each one of us who lives in this great country is now in debt \$50,700, every man, woman, and child.

Sixteen trillion dollars is roughly the same as our country's entire economic output for the first time in 40 years. The last time our debt was 100 percent of GDP was right after World War II. We were fighting to save our Nation, to save a society, to save a way of life. This has been self-inflicted, and we can't keep going on this way.

We have reached what the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform called the moment of truth. The report it prepared for the President almost 2 years ago—in fact, that was the title of its report, *The Moment of Truth*. And while the commission faced the moment of truth with a comprehensive bipartisan plan for reducing our debt, Congress has yet to do so. Now is the time. We know how to fix things. Congress has done it before.

In the early 1990s, our economy was faltering because deficits and debt were freezing capital. But Congress sent a signal to the market that it was capable of being fiscally responsible. And it was. The result was the longest economic expansion in history: the creation of over 22 million jobs and unprecedented wealth in America, with every income bracket rising—every income bracket, not just the chosen few.

The budget framework put together by Congress and the White House led to the first balanced budget in genera-

tions and put our country on track to be debt free this year, in 2012. If we had stayed the course, we would be debt free as a United States of America right now. Let me repeat that. This year we would have been debt free.

But we got totally off track with tax cuts, two wars, and expansion of the prescription drug benefits for Medicare recipients—none of which was paid for. All great ideas, but none was paid for. And the 10-year \$5.6 trillion surplus forecast in 2001 has become a debt of more than \$16 trillion. That is a \$22 trillion swing in less than a decade. It is unbelievable. It is mind boggling.

But we can get back on track if we follow a simple formula, roughly the same one the Bowles-Simpson debt commission recommended. We have to curtail spending, we have to have a fair revenue stream, and we have got to look at cutting the fat; and, to do that, an overhaul of our tax system so it is not only more equitable for everyone but also encourages the kind of entrepreneurship that makes our country the bedrock of the global economy.

In America, we need a tax system where everybody pays their fair share, and where American businesses are free to do what they do best: outproduce, and outinnovate competitors all around the world. To keep a bright future, we have to reform our entitlement programs so we can preserve the benefits. There is serious trouble ahead if we don't act.

Think about this. In 2016, Social Security disability is basically insolvent; 2024, Medicare insolvent; 2033, Social Security will only be able to deliver 75 cents on the dollar, a 25-percent discount.

The American people are hungry for plain talk on our debt. That is why a few weeks ago in Charleston, WV, we hosted Senator Alan Simpson and White House Chief of Staff under Bill Clinton Erskine Bowles. They packed the house, and they spoke the truth. What they were saying is, give the American people the facts, show them the options the way we did at our fiscal summit, and they will do their part to get our country back on the right track. They always have. That is what makes this country so great.

So don't sell the United States of America short. Don't sell the American people short because this is an election year. They can tell when you are dealing straight with them or when you are playing politics. Right now, there is no more time to play politics.

In fact, I got a letter yesterday from James of Clarksburg, WV, talking about the summit. Here is what he said.

It is time for responsible Members of the Senate like you to take to the floor and tell your fellow Senators, "It is past time for us to take responsible action to address the fiscal crisis which is our responsibility to the people who sent us here—because it is just that. There is no excuse for delaying action until after the election."

No excuse to delay it just because of an election.

James got it exactly right; there is no time to waste. I am not naive. I understand some of the choices we face are going to be hard for some of us to make. I know Republicans don't want to talk about new revenue, and I know Democrats don't want to talk about entitlement reform. But we need to start thinking more about the next generation than of ourselves, or the next generation than the next news cycle or the next flight out of Washington.

Millions of Americans are struggling in this tough economy, working overtime to pay their bills, find a job, and find a way forward for their families. They are looking to us for the leadership they need. They are looking to us for solutions. They are looking to us to come together and do what is best for the country in a balanced and practical way. They are simply looking to us to do our job, and I intend to do that to the best of my ability.

Winston Churchill once said: You can always count on Americans to do the right thing—after they have tried everything else.

I think we have tried everything else, including kicking the can down the road 12 times before. Now it is time for us to do the right thing. This temporary step is the wrong thing at the wrong time. We have work left to do, and we need to stay and do it. The people of America expect us to do better, to stand up for them, to put politics aside. The people of West Virginia can be assured that I will always stand, and I will continue to try to do the best that I possibly can for them and for the people of this great country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN). The Senator from Rhode Island.

HONORING RUSSELL TRAIN

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, this week the conservation community mourns the passing of a great American leader, a passionate individual, and an inspiration and friend to many, Russell Errol Train.

President Nixon first named Russell Train as Under Secretary of the Department of the Interior and then as the first Chairman of the new White House Council on Environmental Quality from 1970 to 1973. Russ Train then became the Administrator of the EPA, serving there from 1973 to 1977. He was at the forefront of the legislation that became the bedrock of our country's environmental policy: the Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act—laws that keep the American public safe and that protect our American natural resources.

His desire to protect wildlife and habitat predated these years of public service. He founded the Wildlife Conservation Foundation in 1959 and then the African Wildlife Foundation. When