

the call of duty with courage, selflessness, and excellence.

As we all know, during the Second World War, DAN served in the famed, all-Nisei 442nd Regimental Combat Team. After losing his right arm and sustaining other grave injuries in combat, he spent 2 years in Army hospitals. At one of those hospitals he met two other wounded veterans: a soldier from Kansas named Bob Dole and a Michigan boy named Philip Hart. All three would go on to become giants of Senate history.

It is difficult to imagine, but after returning from the war, LT DANIEL INOUE was wearing an empty right sleeve pinned to his Army uniform and was denied service at a San Francisco barbershop. The barber dismissed him with the words, "We don't serve Japs here." One of DANIEL INOUE's great legacies in his successful fight to defeat that brand of racism and discrimination was his successful fight against any form of discrimination against anyone, especially people with disabilities. Throughout his political career, he fought for civil rights and social justice not only for Japanese Americans but for all Americans.

Mr. President, I have lost not only a friend of nearly four decades but also my chairman on the Committee on Appropriations and its Subcommittee on Defense. Senator INOUE was well known as a stalwart advocate for national defense and for veterans. He also fought very passionately to advance education, the National Institutes of Health, and other programs in the jurisdiction of my Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education.

I will never forget what Senator INOUE said one time in a meeting in which my bill on labor, health and human services, education, NIH, the Centers for Disease Control—all of the things that are in that bill came forward. Remember, Senator INOUE was at that time the chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, and he said something I will never forget.

He said:

I chair the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. That is the subcommittee that defends America.

He said:

Senator HARKIN chairs the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. That is the subcommittee that defines America.

So Senator INOUE was not a one-dimensional person. He was not just someone who fought for our veterans and fought for the strong defense of our country. I also remember him saying one time—repeating the famous words of President Truman—that the strength of America comes not just from the number of tanks, guns, and war planes we have but from the health, welfare, and education of our people.

In tributes on the floor yesterday and today, colleagues are remembering DAN

INOUE as one of the greatest Senators of our time, and indeed he was. But knowing DAN and the values he held dear, he would want no greater tribute than to be remembered as a loyal friend, a man of honor, decency, and humility. Senator INOUE was that and much more.

Senator INOUE was the finest of men. For half a century, the Senate has been graced by his dignified and noble presence. It will not be the same without him. We will miss our friend DANIEL INOUE very, very much.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

TRIBUTES TO DEPARTING SENATORS

OLYMPIA SNOWE

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor now to bid farewell to one of the Senate's most respected Members, Senator OLYMPIA SNOWE from the great State of Maine. She chose to retire this year after a distinguished career in public service spanning nearly four decades, first in the Maine Legislature, 6 years in the U.S. House, and the last 18 years here in the U.S. Senate.

Throughout this remarkable career, she has been respected for her independence, always putting her values and country ahead of party and partisanship. She can, of course, be a very persuasive advocate for the conservative causes she holds dear, but, as we all know and appreciate, she is willing to buck party loyalty when she believes it is in error or when she believes in what is better for our country. And our future depends on bipartisanship. I cite, for example, when she voted in favor of the Recovery Act and the Dodd-Frank reform of Wall Street.

I especially admire Senator SNOWE's talent for reaching across the aisle and building bridges in order to get things done. On that score, she has represented the United States and her State of Maine at her very best, and that is just one of the many reasons why we are sad that she has chosen, voluntarily, to retire.

OLYMPIA SNOWE has been a wonderful colleague and friend, always congenial, always willing to listen, always willing to examine different sides of an issue. What more could we ask of any U.S. Senator? We have been fortunate to have had a Senator of her high caliber, intelligence, and character in this body for the last 18 years. I join with the entire Senate family in wishing her and John the very best in the years ahead.

JEFF BINGAMAN

Mr. President, in these closing days of the 112th Congress, the Senate is

saying farewell to one of our most popular and respected Members, Senator JEFF BINGAMAN of New Mexico.

When JEFF came to this body 30 years ago, he had already led a life of accomplishment. Raised in smalltown New Mexico, Silver City, he was an Eagle Scout. He graduated from Harvard College and Stanford Law School, where he met his future wife Anne. While at Stanford, he worked on Senator Robert F. Kennedy's campaign for President. At the age of 35, he was elected New Mexico attorney general in 1978. Four years later, at the age of 39, he was elected to the U.S. Senate.

During his three decades in this body, JEFF BINGAMAN has been a classic workhorse Senator as opposed to being a show horse Senator. He is truly remarkable and distinctive among Senators for his willingness to shun the limelight and share the credit in order to get important work done for his State and for his country.

Senator BINGAMAN has been a much-valued colleague of mine on the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, but he has really made his mark in the Senate—a lasting mark—in his role as chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. As chair and also at times ranking member of that committee, he has played a leading role in shaping energy policy for our Nation, authoring bipartisan legislation promoting a balanced energy portfolio encompassing all energy sources.

Senator BINGAMAN worked closely with his New Mexico colleague, Senator Pete Domenici, to pass the landmark 2005 Energy Policy Act, signed into law by President George W. Bush. This was signed, I might add, appropriately at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM. That comprehensive law established groundbreaking policies on many fronts, including a renewable fuels standard for biofuels, support for alternative vehicles, loan guarantees for new energy technologies that reduce greenhouse gases, establishing policies to upgrade the electrical grid, plus a whole range of measures to promote energy efficiency.

In 2007 he again collaborated with Senator Domenici in securing passage of the Energy Independence and Security Act. This act included an ambitious increase in vehicle fuel efficiency standards—from 25 miles per gallon to 35 miles per gallon by the year 2020—as well as significantly greater commitments to the use of biofuels. These two provisions are largely responsible for the significant decrease in oil imports that we have seen over the past several years.

More broadly, Senator BINGAMAN has played a critical role in ensuring the vitality of America's energy research and development community, championing energy programs at all levels, including universities, national laboratories, and in private industry.

I can't close without mentioning a great living legacy of the Senator from

New Mexico: his 2009 public lands management bill that set aside more than 2 million acres in nine States as protected wilderness, including a 5,300-acre national monument to protect Paleozoic fossils located north of Los Cruces, NM. I can say that Senator BINGAMAN stands in line with those great heroes of America who set aside public lands for all future generations, people such as Theodore Roosevelt and others. Senator BINGAMAN takes his rightful place there.

For the last three decades in this body, Senator BINGAMAN has been a tireless advocate for the people of New Mexico and a determined champion of the future of clean and renewable energy for the United States. He has been an outstanding Senator and a wonderful friend. I join with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in wishing Jeff and Anne the very best in the years ahead.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I rise today to urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support our efforts to come to the relief of millions of Americans who are suffering in the wake of Superstorm Sandy.

I thank my fellow Senators from the Northeast, especially Senators LAUTENBERG and MENENDEZ, as well as my colleague, Senator SCHUMER, for all their leadership. Senator SCHUMER and I have been working in unison with many of our colleagues. We have been testifying at hearings and talking to our other colleagues since the storm hit.

I also give special thanks to Senator LANDRIEU, who, because her State has suffered so much, has had not only deep experience in advocating for families who are suffering but she has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in bringing together a bill that can begin to meet some of those needs.

I also thank Senator BOXER for holding a hearing in the Environment and Public Works Committee. That hearing allowed all of the Senators to speak on behalf of their States, the members of our delegations, to bear witness to what actually took place.

Superstorm Sandy was a storm unlike anything we had ever seen in the Northeast before. The sheer magnitude and force struck the most densely populated parts of the region. As you can see here on this chart, the purple is where the storm hit hardest, then the red and on to the yellow. In Sandy's wake, more than 40 New Yorkers lost their lives and hundreds of thousands more have lost their homes or seen significant damage to their neighborhoods

and their businesses, and their families are currently still suffering.

I wish to share just one story that indicates the depth of the challenge these families are facing.

This one man, whose name is Pedro Correa, is from Staten Island. Pedro is a lifelong New Yorker. When he saw the Twin Towers fall on 9/11, he answered the call of duty. He has been to Iraq and served our country. Since returning home to his family, he has continued to serve in public service. He and his wife are raising two kids, ages 2 and 6, in their Oakwood Beach home. As Sandy approached, Pedro was very smart. He got his family and children out to higher ground and a safer place. Unfortunately, he stayed. The brutal winds hit his home and his community so hard—winds of unbelievable force—that it blew his roof off and collapsed the structure of his house, allowing floodwaters in. With the rising water, he literally felt his life was at risk. He called his wife and kids to say goodbye, but he was a strong man and he endured. He actually was able to fight the storm waters and swam to safety to a neighbor's house.

One might think that was going to be the worst for Pedro and his family, but it is not. It is actually not. His house was completely destroyed. And as he has begun his effort to rebuild, he has found roadblock after roadblock, challenge after challenge, and a great deal of difficulty in that small effort of beginning to rebuild. He called his insurance company and discovered his insurance is capped at half the value of his home. He called FEMA, and FEMA offered him \$2,800.

This is a man any of us would be proud to call our own son. He lived through 9/11, he went to fight for our country, and he continues public service. Now he is literally in the fight for his own life and for his own family's well-being and safety. His only choice currently is bankruptcy.

Americans watching us might ask: Are we going to come together to help these families? Will we stand as one body and do the right thing by these families, these communities, these businesses that are just trying to get back on their feet? One thing is clear: There are too many of these stories for any of us to bear.

After spending time in the communities that were hardest hit—from New York City to the Hudson Valley to Long Island—I can tell you the images of the devastation are worse than any I have personally ever witnessed. I spent day after day meeting with families whose lives have been shattered, homes destroyed, such as this one. Many of them are worried because, obviously, as winter sets in, they do not think they can return to their homes. How will they get their kids back in school? How will they rebuild their lives?

But amid all this destruction, one story continues to emerge: neighbors helping neighbors, and unbelievable acts of generosity and kindness. I have

met volunteers from every State in this country who came to help Sandy's victims—young kids who want to do their part. I met a bunch of kids—veterans—who had already served in Iraq and Afghanistan who were there just to help people clean out their basements. They put on some gloves and work boots and they shoveled out basements for days and days.

I met one gentleman who, as with this house, had a boat in the middle of his restaurant. He said to me: KIRSTEN, we will rebuild and we will rebuild better. And we agreed we would have dinner at that restaurant a year from now. So that resolve, that determination to rebuild, is something that is never in short supply in New York. We New Yorkers are very tough. We can get knocked down, but every single time we will get up. We may be forced to bend, but we will not break. But we can't do it alone. We need the rest of this body, the rest of Congress, to come to our support.

I know there has been a lot of discussion, and I have been involved in some with my colleagues, over the past few days about the bill, that we are moving too quickly, that it costs too much. But please, for a moment, think of devastation in your own States, think of talking to a family with children with no place to go. Imagine what it would be like to be without a home, particularly during these holidays. Families need just a small amount of support to begin to rebuild.

In New York, because of where the storm hit, a lot of our infrastructure was damaged, and a lot of these projects are extremely expensive. But these projects are emergency spending. This is major transportation infrastructure, such as the Brooklyn Battery tunnel. This is the subway, but the Brooklyn Battery tunnel alone would take \$700 million to rebuild. So when we are talking about a bill and that we could fund a little today and fund the rest tomorrow, that is not how business works. It is not how a contract works. You either contract to rebuild the tunnel or you don't. You either make the changes to rebuild it or you don't. You voluntarily, to retire, can't say: We will put down a little now. No State or city can operate that way. If you don't know the funds are there in advance, you can't start to rebuild.

The same is true for our houses. We have estimates that there is \$10 billion worth of damage to these homes. If you say, we will give a little now, how is that homeowner going to know if they are even going to be able to rebuild if no one is there to help them?

We have always funded disaster projects when they are needed. We have not asked for offsets, we have not asked for them to be paid for in advance. That is what a disaster is. That is what disaster funding is about. So I think it is important we look to New York and say: We will be there for you. We will stand with you. New York has

stood by every other State, every other region in the country when they have had disasters come to their doorsteps.

Another concern my colleagues have brought up is this issue of what portion of the bill is for future prevention. We call it mitigation. The reality is, if you are going to rebuild a subway such as this, and you don't do it in a way that protects against flooding the next time, then you are wasting your money. Mitigation is attached to each and every project it is going to be used for, so when we fix the tunnel, when we fix the subway, when we fix any part of our city, it will be done in a way that is smart and not blind to future risks.

Some have also asked the question about Army Corps of Engineers projects. For those who are not familiar with Washington speak, the Army Corps of Engineers funds a lot of projects related to our coastal shorelines or to any kind of waterway. They do the engineering required and then the work that has to be done to make sure a beach isn't vulnerable after a massive storm, such as the ones we have seen. Because of Sandy, much of the Army Corps's infrastructure that provided this critical protection was washed away or significantly damaged, leaving a lot of our shoreline exposed. So even if a minor storm hits, lives will be at risk.

When we look at the history of Hurricane Katrina, Congress and the Bush administration immediately provided the Army Corps with \$3.3 billion for repair and mitigation with no offsets. Even funds appropriated in 2008 for the gulf coast hurricanes, 3 years after the storms hit, were designated as disaster and emergency funding. In fact, since 1989, Congress has passed 36 emergency appropriations for disasters without any specifically dedicated outside offsets.

It has been 50 days since Superstorm Sandy hit our shores. We need to act swiftly. When Hurricane Katrina battered the gulf coast, the Members of this body and the House united. We passed two emergency spending relief bills worth \$60 billion within 10 days. Congress did the same for Hurricane Andrew, and within weeks of the Twin Towers falling on 9/11. I know the Members of this body can come together. When disaster strikes, we always find a way to do the right thing. It is time to do the same today.

It is the fundamental role of government to protect people, to help rebuild communities when disaster strikes. When so many lives have been destroyed and so many communities lie in rubble, when businesses don't know how to begin to rebuild, that is when we have to stand strong and we have to come together.

No doubt we have serious challenges ahead of us, but none of us was sent here to Congress to do what is easy. We serve to do what is right, especially when it is hard, especially when families are counting on us. So I ask my colleagues to find good will, to open

their hearts and stand by those families who have suffered so much in the Northeast.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

REMEMBERING DANIEL K. INOUE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise, as so many of my colleagues have, to mourn and pay tribute to Senator DANIEL INOUE of Hawaii.

He was a giant of the Senate. He was an individual whose courage, whose compassion, and whose commitment to this country has never been exceeded by anyone who served here—indeed, by any American I can think of.

A few years ago, I was asked to introduce the Senator at an event. I wrote down some points on a card that I kept on my desk, and will forever keep on my desk:

Second Lieutenant Daniel K. Inouye, E Company, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, San Terenzo, Italy, April 21, 1945.

That was the day he was wounded leading his platoon against an enemy pillbox, the day for which he would be ultimately awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions.

Then I have another date: May 8, 1945. That was VE Day, the end of the war. Seventeen days before the end of the war, when Berlin was encircled and collapsing, when American forces were rushing and the end was clear, and indeed every soldier recognized that the war was coming to an end, Senator INOUE didn't stop serving, didn't stop sacrificing, didn't stop giving his all to protect his soldiers and accomplish his mission. Indeed, that spirit of never giving up, of never failing to do his duty, animated his service in the Senate, animated his service to this country, and to the State of Hawaii.

At the time I gave these remarks, he was 1 of 90 living holders of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Today we mourn his passing, his contributions to Hawaii, his contributions to this Senate which he held in the highest esteem and which he personified so grandly.

I think one of the factors that led him to a career in public service and led him to such distinguished service was the recognition—not theoretically but practically—that despite his great suffering and sacrifice, he was lucky because there were many other young men and women who perished in that war and in subsequent wars; that he had sacrificed much but had not given his life, although he very nearly gave his life.

At the outset of the war, the Librarian of Congress Archibald MacLeish, wrote:

They say, We were young. We have died. Remember us.

They say, We have done what we could but until it is finished it is not done.

They say, We have given our lives but until it is finished no one can know what our lives gave.

They say, Our deaths are not ours; they are yours: they will mean what you make them.

They say, Whether our lives and our deaths were for peace and a new hope or for nothing we cannot say: it is you who must say this.

In everything DAN INOUE did, he spoke for those soldiers. He gave their lives meaning by his selfless service and sacrifice to this Nation. He gave it every day by making this place—this country—live up to its highest ideals, a place of opportunity for all, a place of fairness and decency. He did it as few did.

So those voices that were stilled in 1945, and in the Korean War and in the war in Vietnam and subsequent wars, always had a voice here; and it wasn't just words, it was actions. His life gave meaning, and that might be one of the highest achievements anyone can reach in this life.

We all know his extraordinary service in so many different ways. We know also, in one of the great coincidences, three young men were in an Army hospital in Michigan: DAN INOUE, Phil Hart, and Bob Dole, American heroes; and that later they would come to this Senate and serve with distinction. I think it was particularly meaningful that just a few days ago Senator Robert Dole—another great American—was on the floor of this Senate, still serving, still emblematic of the “greatest generation.”

We will miss Senator INOUE. There are few words and not enough eloquence to describe the loss. I, too, particularly want to thank and extend my condolences to his wife Irene, to his son Ken, to his daughter-in-law Jessica, to his granddaughter Maggie, and to his stepdaughter Jennifer Hirano. They have lost more than any of us because they have lost a husband, a father, and a grandfather.

Let me just conclude with the words uttered centuries ago by Thucydides:

The bravest are surely those who have the clearest vision of what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet notwithstanding, go out to meet it.

DAN INOUE knew the dangers. DAN INOUE knew that the glory was fleeting, and in fact combat wasn't particularly glorious at all. But he knew it was honorable to serve. He knew it was honorable to sacrifice for his soldiers and for his comrades. He knew it was honorable and decent to serve his State and his Nation, and he never failed to go forth to meet the challenges of his time.

Now it is our time. Now we must give words and meaning to the voices that have been stilled in the service to this Nation. One of those giants and one of those powerful voices was Senator DANIEL INOUE. The test will be whether we can measure up to what he did, and I hope for the sake of this country we can.