

and water so they could persist in lawlessness.

What deluded nonsense. It is important to acknowledge that Columbia isn't even the only hotbed of retrograde 20th century communism on the island of Manhattan. While the meatless Marxists take over Morningside Heights, a brand of Juche jihadism has emerged further downtown at NYU.

You heard that right. A teach-in quite literally praised North Korea's solidarity with the Palestinian people, specifically enumerating the ways the Kim regime has helped train and equip Palestinian terrorist groups who wage war on Israel. Take heart, comrades. Brutal totalitarians and savage terrorists have actually got and found a common cause.

The glorification of leftist revolutionaries at supposedly elite universities is actually not new. Berets emulating Che Guevara were on campus long before jihadist garb that signals solidarity with Hamas.

And as addled as any generation's radical cries may be, the American people have usually been able to trust that eventually the would-be Maoists would submit to the lessons of history, read about how the Cultural Revolution really ends, and become contributing members of society. But today, the guardrails against professional radicalism have grown vanishingly thin. Unlike in the 1960s, today's Red Guards actually have academic tenure. And more than ever before, the brain trust of the American universities sees the indoctrination of students in postmodern leftism not just as a privilege of tenure but an obligation.

From the comfortable, endowed sinecures where they count on foundation grants, these professors of the "vanguard elite" urge their impressionable students to engage in unlawful acts with potentially lasting repercussions—cannon fodder for the cause.

Meanwhile, to an alarming degree, campus administrators have abdicated their responsibility to treat their charges as adults capable of bearing the consequences of their actions, and in the face of a mob that increasingly represents their political base, elected leaders have shrunk from the duty to ensure that the order President Biden referenced last week actually prevails.

To borrow from one of the campus radicals' favorite fonts of wisdom, Karl Marx famously wrote that if history repeats itself, it comes "the first time as tragedy, [and] the second time as farce."

It is hard not to worry that, in 2024, it has arrived as a bit of both.

STUDENT LOAN DEBT

Mr. President, now on a related matter, last week brought news that some of the biggest names backing President Biden's reelection campaign are also behind major leftwing groups stoking campus chaos—from training on occupation and resistance tactics to outright Hamas apologists. And as the Democratic Party's biggest donors

fund campus radicals' anti-Semitic sabbatical, the Biden administration is still trying to cover the cost of tuition for the classes they are missing.

The administration's student loan socialism scheme would force working families around the country to cover college degrees for the Nation's highest earners. It is hard to conceive of a more patently regressive social policy. By one analysis, the highest earning fifth of American households hold nearly a third of all student debt. By contrast—and this is particularly interesting—the lowest earning fifth hold only 8 percent of student debt. Families across the country are still struggling with sky-high prices and soaring interest rates. It is harder to fill the refrigerator and gas tank, tougher to buy a house or a car, but President Biden thinks that this is the time to send billions of working Americans' tax dollars to the college graduates who already have a leg up in earning potential.

Now, let's remember, the Supreme Court already declared this policy illegal. Just last summer, the Supreme Court ruled that the executive branch lacked the statutory authority to implement blanket student loan forgiveness. Well, like many of the chaos agents who have taken over college campuses in recent weeks, President Biden seems to have no problem disregarding the law.

We are talking about a scheme that has already spent hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars. And the proposed rule administration bureaucrats placed in the Federal Register would cost nearly \$150 billion more and has already drawn over 28,000 comments from the public.

Here is what some of these frustrated taxpayers have to say:

There is no such thing as free money. As a homeowner, we are not getting mortgage forgiveness.

This would be a burden on taxpayers. This would be unfair to people that have already paid student debt, or those who have paid down significantly student debt.

And one particularly frustrated taxpayer said this:

I acquired \$30,000 in student loan debt, which required hard decisions and accountability. I work[ed] the entire time I was in college, both during the school year, summers and breaks. It meant instead of buying an expensive car or getting a nice apartment I lived within my means and paid my student loan payment every month that I agreed to make.

The American people know the President is handing them a raw deal. Apparently, either he isn't listening or he doesn't care.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The majority leader is recognized.

ANTI-SEMITISM

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in 1945, Muriel Knox Doherty, of the Royal Australian Air Force Nursing Service, was assigned to the Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp to provide relief for Holocaust survivors. She preserved her experience in hundreds of letters, which contained passages like this:

On arrival at Belsen, [the prisoners] lay in the open and were beaten with iron bars. [The] witness' friend was in bed 3 days as a result of these beatings.

"The only reason for this treatment," she wrote, "was that they were Jews."

"The only reason for this treatment is that they were Jews."

Yesterday, Jews around the world observed Yom HaShoah—the Holocaust Remembrance Day. I spoke at Temple Emanu-El in New York about it.

This year, Yom HaShoah comes at an especially painful moment for the Jewish people. Seven months ago, over 1,200 innocents were brutally murdered by Hamas in the worst attack against Jews since the Holocaust. In the months since, anti-Semitism has swept our country and the world in ways not seen in generations. Sadly, we see the poison of anti-Semitism amidst some of the protests happening on college campuses today.

This unprecedented rise in anti-Semitism is why I came to the Senate floor last November—to speak at length about the fear that has been growing in the hearts and minds of every Jewish person since October 7. I believe we all have an obligation to call out anti-Semitism wherever we see it arise, be it from the right or from the left.

As I forcefully said in my speech, if anti-Semitism is not repudiated, if it isn't forcefully called out whenever and wherever it arises, it will metastasize into something worse. That is what I wanted to emphasize in my speech.

So, today, I applaud President Biden for taking another strong, decisive step to fight anti-Semitism at the Federal level, with new steps aimed at fighting anti-Semitism in our communities, online, and toward Jewish students.

Among other actions, the President has directed the Department of Education to issue new guidance for college campuses to protect Jewish students and students of all backgrounds so that our universities remain safe havens to learn and grow.

When a Jewish student cannot walk through their quad without fear of harassment or ridicule or something far worse, we have a duty to respond. When swastikas are spray-painted on Jewish gravestones and bomb threats are made against synagogues, it demands action from the government to keep people safe. If "never again" is to have any meaning, all of us must own the duty of combating anti-Semitism together at every level of society.

Here in the Senate, I will continue to work with Democrats and Republicans

to protect Jewish synagogues, schools, and organizations of all kinds from violence and hate. It is why I fought to increase funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Fund Program, which provides money for synagogues and shuls and schools and other nonprofit religious organizations, whether they be Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, or anything else, to protect themselves against vandalism and violence and all forms of hate.

As I said in my speech on the floor last November, the best way we can work together against anti-Semitism is to preserve the history of the Jewish experience, to tell the truth about the horrors that took place 80 years ago. Only then can we truly honor the memories of the innocent dead. Only then we can be sure that “the torturer never tortures again.”

BORDER SECURITY

Now, Mr. President, on the border, precisely 3 months ago, something truly stunning happened here on the Senate floor: Senate Republicans filibustered the strongest, most comprehensive border security bill Congress has seen in a generation. They did it for one reason only: Donald Trump—hell-bent on using the border for political gain—told them to do so.

The situation at the border is unacceptable. Everyone knows that. Senate Democrats know it, the President knows it, and the American people know it too. So, a few months ago, as Senators worked on the supplemental, Democrats tried to find a long-sought solution to America’s broken immigration system. Again, Democrats have made clear the situation at the border is unacceptable. That is why, for months, we sat down with Republicans to craft the strongest border security bill in a generation, endorsed by the Border Patrol union—very conservative.

I salute Senators MURPHY and SINEMA and LANKFORD for working so hard on that bill. But Donald Trump told Republicans to kill the bill because—and he was explicit—he wants to exploit the chaos at the border for political gain.

He even said:

Please blame it on me.

He explicitly took credit for this tough border bill to go down, a bill that the Wall Street Journal’s editorial page called “a border bill worth passing”—they are hardly leftwing liberals—that the Chamber of Commerce said was a “commonsense measure”; and which the President of the National Border Patrol Council called “far better than the status quo.”

You would think, given the chance to pass the strongest border bill in decades, that Republicans would have pounced at the opportunity. After all, how many times have we heard our Republican colleagues give speeches here on the floor about the emergency at the border? How many times have we heard Republicans say, year after year,

that Congress must act? How many times have we seen Republicans take field trips down to the border, taking pictures with the fence towering behind them, while bemoaning that the problem is only getting worse?

Apparently, that was all for show—all for show—because precisely 3 months ago, right here on the floor, Senate Republicans, in obeisance to Donald Trump—and I believe many of them knew he was wrong—but Senate Republicans on the Senate floor killed the best chance—the best chance—we have seen in decades to provide a solution to the border.

It is pretty simple: Republicans can’t say that the border is an emergency but then refuse to take action. Republicans cannot claim to care about fixing asylum but then block the biggest changes to asylum law in decades. Republicans cannot claim to care about our Border Patrol agents but then deprive them of the very tools and funding the Border Patrol has been asking for.

Our Republican colleagues may have given up on taking real action on the border, but Democrats have not. Democrats will make it clear which party is working to fix our broken border and which party is conspiring to make the border worse.

We will challenge our Republican colleagues to join us once again on the border reforms Americans demand to stop the flow of fentanyl, to improve asylum and vetting, and to ensure our border agents have the tools that they need.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

Mr. President, on the FAA, this week, the Senate will continue working on the FAA reauthorization. The deadline is 3 days away. It is going to take a lot of cooperation to get this complicated bill done. Thankfully, we have made some good progress over the last few days on germane amendments, and we hope to finish our work in time for the House to act on our bill.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to prioritize reaching an outcome so we prevent slipping past the deadline.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

Finally, Mr. President, on Social Security, yesterday, a new report showed the strengths of Social Security and Medicare have improved because of the economic upswing we are seeing under President Biden.

The New York Times headline said:

Strong Labor Market Steadied Social Security and Medicare Funds.

But yesterday’s report came with a warning: Social Security and Medicare still face long-term challenges to solvency. The lives of tens of millions could be thrown into chaos if these programs are not protected.

So let’s not forget that, year after year, Republicans have made clear where they stand. Instead of working with Democrats to strengthen Social Security and Medicare, they want to

put them on the chopping block. A little over a month ago, Donald Trump said on the campaign trail that there is “a lot you can do in terms of entitlements in terms of cutting.”

Around the same time, the Republican Study Committee, which represents 80 percent of all House Republicans, called for \$1.5 trillion—\$1.5 trillion—in cuts to Social Security and raising the retirement age to 67. Donald Trump didn’t hesitate to give tax cuts to the ultrarich and large corporations, but he thinks there is “a lot you can do” to cut programs that millions of American families rely on every single day. That is beyond callous. It is just wrong-headed. It hurts people a lot.

The difference between Democrats and hard-right Republicans couldn’t be more stark. This year, we will make sure the American people know it.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY BRIDGE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I take this time, along with Senator VAN HOLLEN, to update our colleagues on the tragic events that took place in Baltimore on March 26 of this year when the Dali, an almost 1,000-foot container vessel, ran into the support pier of the Francis Scott Key Bridge and, within seconds, the bridge collapsed. It was a sight that was seen around the world in horror. It was a horrific event, and it had a major impact not only on my community in Baltimore but also around the Nation.

The Francis Scott Key Bridge is part of I-695 and part of the I-95 corridor on the east coast of the United States. It also is a bridge that is over the only channel into the Port of Baltimore. The Port of Baltimore is the third busiest port in the United States. It is No. 1 in roll-on, roll-off cargo, and it is critically important to our national economy, our supply chains, et cetera. This bridge is a major thoroughfare for the Northeast corridor. Over 34,000 vehicles a day were transporting through the Francis Scott Key Bridge prior to it being destroyed.

Now, the immediate impact: I think we have all seen the images of how the bridge collapsed and that part of the bridge was actually on the Dali vessel. The heart of the channel was completely blocked by the debris of concrete and steel.

The immediate tragedy was the loss of life. When the Dali struck the Francis Scott Key Bridge, there were eight people on the bridge. They were doing dangerous work, repair work, in order to keep our roads safer. Of the