

But you know what I am talking about, and in gratitude for the honor you have bestowed on me, I wanted to this evening talk about things I more often leave unexpressed.

Perhaps, I should talk about the veterans issues before the 104th Congress. But no doubt you have by this point in your convention heard from both Congress and the Administration a great many promises to protect and advance the interests of American veterans. For my part, I would simply affirm that the sacrifices borne by veterans deserve to be memorialized in something more lasting than marble or bronze or in the fleeting effect of a politician's speech. Your valor and your devotion to duty have earned your country's abiding concern for your well-being. I am, I assure you, committed to honoring that debt.

I suspect you already knew that or you would not have honored me with this award. And, as I said, I wanted to talk of other things as well tonight, of the experiences we share and the memory that holds us to one another.

Let me talk now of what you gave your country, the contribution for which the nation is in your debt. It is more than the battles you won. More than Iwo Jima or Midway or the Battle of the Bulge. More than the Chosin Reservoir or Inchon. More than flights over that most heavily defended enemy capital, Hanoi. More than Khe San or the I Drang.

All these battles, all these grim tests of courage and character have made a legend of the American fighting man's devotion to duty in every community in America. And it is the lesson of your courage that will help instruct those who will defend our country tomorrow in their duty. For they will seek to immortalize in their own devotion to duty your valor and the long and noble history of a free people's defense of their liberty. Their character will be derived in part from their appreciation of your character.

You know, as well as I, that the world in which they shoulder their responsibilities is an uncertain one. Our familiarity with man's inhumanity to man assures us that Americans will be asked someday to again bear sacrifices that only the brave can endure. That burden will be their honor, as it was once ours.

I have memories of that honor that caution me to this day to be careful when asking such sacrifices of others. But I fear that the day will come when my caution is overcome by necessity.

Last June, the free world celebrated one of the greatest battles in the long struggle against tyranny—the invasion of Normandy. President Clinton, quite appropriately, memorialized the occasion by recognizing the profound debt the world owes to the veterans of D Day. In the President's words: "they saved the world."

Our world, then and now, is indeed the consequence of their suffering on killing grounds that were once and are again quiet beaches in a peaceful corner of the free world. But the memory of their sacrifice, and the memories of sacrifice that are held by all of you, caution us always to never assume that peace is the normal state of world affairs.

I have memories of a place so far removed from the comforts of this blessed country that I have forgotten some of the anguish it once brought me. But my happiness these last twenty years has not let me forget the friends who did not come home with me. The memory of them, of what they bore for honor and country, causes me to look in every prospective conflict for the shadow of Vietnam.

I do not let that shadow hold me in fear from my duty as I have been given light to see that duty. Yet, it no longer falls to me to

bear arms in my country's defense. It falls to our children, and our children's children. I pray that if the time comes for them to answer a call to arms, the battle will be necessary and the field well chosen. But that will not be their responsibility. As it once was for us, their honor is in their answer, not their summons.

I trust in their willingness and ability to answer the call faithfully. I hold that trust in deference to memories of brave men lost long ago. I hold that trust in deference to you and the courage with which you came of age during a moment of violence and terror. I know that the cause which you defended will not suffer in our children's hands. They are born into the same traditions, with the same values that empowered us.

I know that on some fitting, distant occasion, young men and women will be instructed in their duty by recalling our children's and our grandchildren's example. And on a quiet beach somewhere, many years from now, the liberated will again gather to pay tribute to the liberators, look upon their seasoned faces and say: they were warriors once and very brave. You and I know how great an honor that is.

Thank you for this award. I will always try to remain worthy of the honor. Good night and God bless you.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1995

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, again for the majority leader, I would ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in recess until the hour of 9:45 a.m. Friday, March 24, 1995; that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date; the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that there then be a period for the transaction of routine morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10 a.m., with Senator MCCAIN to be recognized for up to 10 minutes. I further ask that at the hour of 10 a.m., the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 831, the self-employed health deduction bill.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Again, Mr. President, for our leader, for the information of my colleagues, tomorrow the Senate will consider the self-employed health deduction bill under a previous concept agreement. Senators should be aware that there will be no rollcall votes during Friday's session of the Senate.

On Monday, the majority leader has indicated it will be his intention to proceed to S. 219, the regulation moratorium bill.

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

ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Now, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that following Senator DASCHLE's statement, the Senate stand in recess under the previous order.

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

FURTHER THOUGHTS ON LINE- ITEM VETO

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I did not want to take the remaining moments prior to the time people had the opportunity to vote on the line-item veto, but I did want to speak before the end of the day for a couple of reasons.

First of all, to commend the distinguished Senator from Nebraska and the distinguished Senator from West Virginia, on our side, for their admirable leadership in the effort over the last many days. Their leadership, their expertise, the remarkable contribution that they made to this debate I think lent service to the entire body. I am very grateful to them.

Let me also commend the distinguished Senators from Arizona and Indiana for their work. Certainly as a result of their leadership and commitment they made to this issue for many years, we have now reached the point where this legislation passed tonight on a vote of 69-29.

Mr. President, I voted in favor of this legislation, very, very reluctantly. It is no secret that I have had some very significant concerns about this particular version of line-item veto.

A week ago tomorrow I went to the floor to express my grave concern about the practicality of separate enrollment, about its constitutionality, and about the shift in the balance of power away from Congress and to the White House. I addressed some of those concerns again on several occasions, the latest of which was last evening. I have said all along it was my view that a legislative line-item veto, if done properly, was a very important tool, budgetarily and legislatively.

I have consistently supported the line-item veto on a number of occasions over the past 16 years. So my vote tonight was consistent with that record. But I cast it, as I said, with some reservation.

I did so with the satisfaction that we also achieved some compromise over the course of the last several days. We achieved a better understanding of what would be included in the bill's tax expenditure provisions. In our view, the Republicans have come some distance in accommodating our concern with regard to ensuring that tax expenditures be included in this bill, that special-interest tax breaks be exposed to the same critical review by the President as other spending.

We were also able to ensure that the savings generated here would be locked in, locked in to deficit reduction and nothing else. I was disappointed with the vote tonight on the Byrd amendment, because I thought that would go even further toward ensuring that our purpose in this regard would be clearly understood from the very beginning. I