

community that they will not sign on to any kind of an extension of the nuclear test ban treaty so long as the nations of the world, the five big nations, primarily, and others, agree to dramatically reduce and get on a course to end the stockpile of nuclear inventory.

While that would, of course, be something that might be good for peace, on the other hand, it might not be. The whole drive today is not to eliminate nuclear weapons from those nations that now have it. The whole concept of a nuclear test ban treaty is to put roadblocks in the way for new states, particularly Third World nations coming aboard and being part of the nuclear inventory states.

That can only be very foreboding, as far as the future of peace is concerned, and especially the future of peace on the basis of not having and relying primarily—and I emphasize the word “primarily”—on nuclear inventories.

Suffice it to say, Mr. President, a lot of very important things are going on today. I happen to feel that, by and large, the measure that has been advanced to the floor of the Senate by the appropriate subcommittee, in this case energy, is a good bill. I think it is an important step in the right direction, with some modifications and lots of compromises.

In closing, I compliment, once again, the two Senators who are managing this bill on the floor for the excellent understanding that they have, the grasp that they have with regard to the whole complex matter of not only national security but international security. I thank them for their attention and thoughtfulness on this particular measure.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAMS). There will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 2 p.m. with the time between 12 noon and 1 p.m. under the control of the Democratic leader and the time between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. under the control of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL].

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KYL). Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator is recognized.

NETDAY EAST

Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I rise today to speak briefly about an exciting new project called NetDay East, which is mobilizing volunteers in several States, including the Common-

wealth of Virginia, to wire our public schools for the Internet. It is exciting, Mr. President, because of how the Internet has transformed the way people communicate and expanded access to information worldwide.

Our challenge now is to bring this technology into all of our Nation's schools as quickly as possible so that all students, regardless of their economic status or where they live, have access to the same global library of knowledge and information to compete on a level playing field.

The biggest barrier has been the lack of money and manpower needed to physically wire the schools to the Internet. Laying the necessary cable to link our K-12 classrooms is estimated to cost billions of dollars nationwide.

But a project in California has showed us that we can overcome this obstacle if we mobilize our communities and work together. In 1 day, California wired 3,500 schools at little or no cost to the schools themselves through the outstanding volunteer efforts of parents, teachers, students, businesses, and elected officials.

Because of the vision and commitment reflected in their NetDay, hundreds of thousands of young Californians will be able to experience a new global world of unlimited possibility with the stroke of a key.

As one who cares deeply about education and surfs the Internet from my Senate office, I am delighted to be a part of NetDay East. Modeled after California's project, NetDay East is now organizing to cable schools every weekend in October in Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Maryland. Similar efforts are taking place in Massachusetts, North Carolina, Montana, Connecticut, and Louisiana as well.

Mr. President, an estimated 40 million people from more than 150 countries use the information superhighway. They include Kathleen Butzler at Northampton Middle School who can lead her seventh grade class on a virtual tour of the White House or talk to a Member of Congress without leaving their home in Mochipongo on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

We shouldn't forget that the Internet is a two-way communications tour. Through NetDay East, thousands of Virginia students will be able to create Web pages, like those at the Northampton Middle School, to teach the rest of the world about the treasures of our beautiful and diverse State.

This technology is fascinating and could very well be the spark to ignite the imagination in children who would otherwise be disinterested in school work. Capturing the interest and imagination of our students through this technology can yield enormous future benefits, for students with access will have a distinct advantage over those who do not. We cannot afford to let our schools slip behind those of our international competitors when the technology, technology that we created, is literally right at our fingertips.

There are many ways to participate in NetDay, Mr. President. Businesses can contribute in a variety of ways, including partnering with local schools, purchasing wiring kits, lending technical staff, and encouraging their employees to volunteer.

Individuals can help pull wire in schools, since installing this type of cable requires a great deal of labor but very little technical expertise.

Schools can register to be a part of this project and encourage their parents to volunteer and promote NetDay. This October on a Saturday, my staff and I plan to help cable A.P. Hill Elementary School in Petersburg, VA, as a part of NetDay East. We will also be doing a demonstration project in Northern Virginia right after school starts in September.

There is no question, Mr. President, that when we wire schools for the Internet this October, we will complete just the first step in a much greater effort to help young Virginians and young Americans in other States travel the information superhighway.

It is a first step, but it is certainly an essential one. There will be much to do to finish the job, including arranging for Internet connections, training students and teachers in the effective uses of the Internet and helping to acquire computer donations to the schools. I hope NetDay forms an important and productive alliance between our communities and our schools that can continue well beyond October.

Finally, I fully endorse NetDay East, and I encourage others to join us during the month of October to participate in this modern-day barn raising.

If anyone would like to sponsor, volunteer, endorse, sign up their school or just find out more information, please visit the NetDay East home page at “www.cgcs.org/netday-east.”

For anyone who does not have access to the Internet, I invite them to contact my office, and we will certainly assist them with registration.

With the help of many caring and committed individuals, Mr. President, we can keep our children off the way-side and ensure they move swiftly and surely forward on the information superhighway.

With that, I thank the Chair, 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. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 5 minutes.

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

TRAGEDY AT THE CENTENNIAL
OLYMPICS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I have just returned from the Centennial Olympics in my home city of Atlanta.

I ask unanimous consent for a brief moment of silence for those who died or were wounded in the bombing the other evening.

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

[Moment of silence.]

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, we, of course, extend our grief and condolences to the family of Alice Hawthorne from Albany, GA, and for Melih Uzunyoz, a Turkish national, both of whom lost their lives in a terrorist-related bombing that occurred at approximately 1:20 a.m. the other morning. Also, we extend our concern and prayers to the 110 casualties that occurred during the bombing and to the 17 who remain in the hospital.

Mr. President, we all owe a group of law enforcement officers a deep debt. The officer who spotted this bomb and his colleagues, in the face of grave danger, were heroes, in every sense, of the Centennial Olympics. In the face of danger themselves, they remained on site, and with every avenue available and open to them they tried to evacuate the crowd from the area of danger. I am absolutely convinced that, without their diligence and duty, the casualties would have been far, far greater. So these officers, these men and women, who tried to evacuate the park are due a deep debt of gratitude from all of us.

Further, the volunteers and officers who stayed, not knowing whether there was a series of bombs, to help those wounded receive comfort, aid, and assistance so that they might be appropriately hospitalized, performed admirably, incredibly in the face of grave danger. To all the officers, the men and women, Federal, State, and local, who in the following hours did everything within their power to bring order to the situation, and who were deluged with what I characterize as thrill-seekers reporting bombs in other venues, other high-density areas. With precision and expertise and valor, they proceeded to secure this great world event in our State and in our Nation. So my hat is off to these people. Again, the word "hero" comes to mind.

Mr. President, I was first notified of this incident at 3 a.m. in the morning. By 6:30 that morning, I had been in touch with the law enforcement command center, which I visited to try to take stock of the situation. It was a gloomy, dark night, drizzling, and as you might imagine, a sense of great concern and pall fell over all of us. As I was driving back pondering what it was that all of us were confronted with, as I was driving into the city, I looked at the interstate that you have to walk over, which many fans have to walk over in order to get to the grand Olympic stadium, and there was a vision of valor, defiance, courage, and

will—the fans. There they were. I could not believe it. I looked up and, by the thousands, they were walking onto the stadium and throughout the city to the other venues.

It will, in my judgment, be a mark of heroism, broad heroism, on a par with the athletes themselves, because this world community gathered up and said, "No way; we will not be intimidated. We will go on with the games." Not only did IOC proclaim the games would go on—that is a statement—but the key was that the world community said, "The games will go on." The families, the children, all alike, everywhere you went, were coming out to say that the Centennial Olympics is bigger than this heinous act against defenseless and helpless citizens.

In many ways, I think it will mark a period of great thought for us in this country. The Presiding Officer, among others, is very much aware that there has been a growing discussion and debate. I think it probably ultimately will call for vaster resources, a better capacity to deal with this kind of era that we approach as we come to the new century. But, for a moment, I had a chance to personally see a broad statement of valor by people from nation after nation. I talked about it all afternoon. One volunteer had been coming in on the rapid transit system that morning, and the car, of course, as you might expect, was crammed from side to side with people of every nation—Dutch, German, American, and the like—and the fans broke out into song singing as they went on to the venues.

So, again, Mr. President, our grief to the families involved, our thanks to those that stood in the face of danger to help, and our acknowledgment of a heroism and a worldwide statement that was made in Atlanta the very next morning as the centennial games continued.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KEMPTHORNE). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, under the previous order, I am to be recognized during morning business for a period of 60 minutes.

I ask unanimous consent that during this period I be permitted to yield portions of my time to other Members without losing my right to the floor.

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

THE DRUG EPIDEMIC

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, as I have said many times on the floor, we are in the midst of a drug epidemic in

the United States of enormous proportions that are not yet, I do not believe, fully comprehended. Drug use among our youth has doubled in the last 36 months, ending 12 years of a continued decline in drug use.

Mr. President, this administration, unfortunately, has to come to terms with this issue because it is pretty clear that its decision to shut down the drug office, to shut down interdiction efforts, to dramatically curtail the war on drugs, and to the change policy regarding rehabilitation has had some very, very uncomfortable consequences.

What does it mean when you say drug use has "doubled"? Does that mean two more people use it? No. What it means is there are 2 million American families who have fallen victim to the tragic consequences of involving themselves in drugs.

Mr. President, in a moment I am going to yield to the distinguished chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the senior Senator from Utah. But let me say that among the data we are now discovering is the fact that our youth currently do not see drugs as a threat to them. How could that be? How could it be that the vast majority of youngsters no longer see that as a threat to them? Therefore, they are not concerned about it. Therefore, they use it more freely. Therefore, twice the number use it today.

I just have to say that over the last several months, this cavalier attitude from the President's press secretary and others and the revelation about drug use in the White House itself—I mean, everybody understands the White House is a bully pulpit. If that pulpit is sanctioning, or appears to be sanctioning, or appears to be minimizing the serious effects of drug use, it should not be surprising that our young people do not understand the consequences.

I am afraid that what has surfaced over the last several weeks—the word that comes to mind is "cavalier"—is that it is not really important, that message has created a very, very serious repercussion in our country. It has to be turned around and changed quickly.

Mr. President, with that opening statement, I yield up to 15 minutes to the distinguished Senator from Utah.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah is recognized for 15 minutes.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Patrick Murphy, a detailee on my staff, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of this Congress.

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

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, our Federal drug policy is at a crossroads. Unfortunately for Americans, drug control is not a national priority for the Clinton administration. For some time now I have been saying that President