

That agreement guaranteed Clinton an up-or-down floor vote in the House and Senate this month on resuming the program without the Reagan-Bush restrictions. But Smith is pressing House Majority Leader Dick Arme to break the deal Republicans made with the White House last September and allow Smith to bring up his restrictive amendment again, sweetened with a partial rollback of the funding cut. Arme's spokeswoman told me, "We're leaning toward" giving Smith what he wants.

That prospect has impelled many of the three dozen House Republicans who support the international family planning program to write Arme that, rather than yield to Smith and his allies, they are prepared to fight their own leadership and, if necessary, hand them an embarrassing defeat on the first major legislative test since Speaker Newt Gingrich was disciplined for ethics violations. The issue goes before the House Republican Conference later this week. But the women and children who have most at stake around the world will not have a vote.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES A. "BILL" BISHOP

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to ask that this body honor a man whose life was an honor to Montana. And a man whose death is a loss to us all.

My friend, Charles A. "Bill" Bishop, died on Sunday, January 26. But his memory will continue to live on in all of us who remember him. His loss is sudden, and we are left now to remember this man who gave us so much. Throughout his life, he was a husband, a father, an advocate, a learner, a jokester, and a teacher. In everything he did, he attacked it with a passion—an unquenchable zest for life.

Family was everything to Bill. He idolized his wife and children, and they loved him dearly. One of his favorite things in the world was spending time with his family. I extend my deepest sympathies to them in this time of sorrow.

Bill's zest for life can easily be seen in his legacy of outspoken advocacy for the environment. With a heart as big as the Mission Mountains that he loved so much, Bill was committed to leaving this planet a better place for his children and grandchildren. On these issues, Bill was often an adviser to me. If he agreed with something I did, he would let me know. If he disagreed, I could expect to get an earful from him. Yet through it all, he was thoughtful, respectful, and eager to find solutions to the many problems that confront Montana.

I still have a hard time imagining Montana without Bill Bishop. In many ways, I will never get used to his absence. To say that I will miss him is not enough. His passing leaves my life with a little less laughter and a little less joy.

Those of us who knew Bill will make sure that the memories stay always fresh, renewed over and over again by our love for this great man. God bless you, Bill.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, February 3, the Federal debt stood at \$5,297,382,328,731.42.

Five years ago, February 3, 1992, the Federal debt stood at \$3,795,010,000,000.

Ten years ago, February 3, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,231,437,000,000.

Fifteen years ago, February 3, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,036,317,000,000.

Twenty-five years ago, February 3, 1972, the Federal debt stood at \$423,272,000,000 which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,874,110,328,731.42—during the past 25 years.

ADDRESS BY PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR MARK GEARAN

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, on December 16, 1996, Mark Gearan, the Director of the Peace Corps, delivered an eloquent address at the National Press Club on the current status of the Peace Corps. Mr. Gearan's address provides an excellent summary of the accomplishments of the Peace Corps and the extraordinary assistance that Peace Corps volunteers are providing to nations in all parts of the world. I know that President Kennedy would be proud of the way the Peace Corps is living up to its ideals, and I ask that Mr. Gearan's address be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

REMARKS BY MARK D. GEARAN, DIRECTOR OF THE PEACE CORPS

The job of Director of the Peace Corps affords those who are privileged to hold it a unique perspective on the world and our country, one that is shaped by the enduring values that the Peace Corps represents, and by the spirit of service that Volunteers embody.

When Sargent Shriver, the first Director of the Peace Corps, came to the National Press Club in 1962, he made this observation:

"It is a complex world we live in today," he said. "While one man orbits the earth in a space capsule, another man squats for hours beside an Asian rice paddy, trying to catch a fish only as big as your thumb. While some men manufacture computers, other men plow with sticks."

What my predecessor said then still holds true today. We have men and women orbiting the earth in space capsules. But we still have men and women plowing with sticks in many parts of the world.

Yet it goes without saying that the world is much different than it was in 1962. The disparities that Sargent Shriver described are still with us. But advances in science, technology, the media, the spread of freedom and democracy, and the end of the Cold War, have not only made our lives more complicated, they have also given us new opportunities and new reason for hope.

Much the same can be said about the Peace Corps. Since President Kennedy sent the first group of Volunteers to Ghana in 1961, we have remained true to the vision and goals that were set out for us from the very beginning. Today, nearly 7,000 Volunteers are working with ordinary people in 90 coun-

tries to encourage social and economic progress at the grass-roots level. Peace Corps Volunteers are young and older; they are black, white, Asian, Hispanic, and Native American; and they come from every social, economic, and religious background.

Yet for all of their diversity, our Volunteers still share a common purpose: to help make the world a better place.

And just as it was in the beginning, the Peace Corps is still much more than a development agency. Our Volunteers are still strengthening the bonds of friendship and understanding between Americans and the people of the developing world that are, in many respects, the foundation of peace among nations.

Yet the Peace Corps has also changed to meet the needs of our time. We have worked hard to strengthen the Peace Corps while remaining faithful to our mission. And I believe that the state of the Peace Corps is as strong as it has ever been, and that its prospects for the future are bright and promising. From the number of qualified and motivated people who want to become Volunteers, to the new countries we are entering, to the strong support we have among the American people, this Administration, and in the Congress, the Peace Corps is moving forward and is poised to enter the 21st century with confidence and energy.

With this future in mind, we decided to take a look at the past and see what we could learn from some of the men and women who have served as Peace Corps Volunteers over the years. We have conducted the first comprehensive survey of returned Peace Corps Volunteers who have served in each of the last four decades since 1961.

I'll tell you more about the survey in a minute. But let me give you just a few examples that demonstrate the vitality of an agency that continues to capture the imagination of so many people.

First, we continue to attract the best that America has to offer. Last year, more than 100,000 people contacted us seeking information about how to become a Peace Corps Volunteer. Ten thousand went through our competitive application process, and we extended invitations to 3,500 of these talented and dedicated people.

Second, we are making sure that Volunteers are serving in the right countries for the times in which we live. That's why earlier this year, our Volunteers returned to Haiti after a five-year absence to work with the people of the poorest nation in this hemisphere.

That's why next month, Volunteers will go to South Africa for the first time in the history of the Peace Corps to help support and contribute to the historic transformation that is taking place in that critical country.

And that's why I recently signed an agreement with the government of Jordan that will allow Volunteers to begin serving there in April 1997 for the first time. Expanding the presence of Peace Corps Volunteers in the Middle East is an important step for us. I believe these Volunteers will help improve understanding between Americans and the people of the Arab world and contribute to Jordan's development.

Third, we are making sure that the work of our volunteers is driven by the needs of the communities where they are serving. Volunteers are working with their counterparts to help to protect and restore the environment. Others collaborate with small business people to create economic opportunities. They are working with teachers to expand access to education for children and adults, and they help farmers grow more and better food. Still others are helping to keep families healthy and prevent the spread of terrible diseases, such as HIV/AIDS.