

in all too many cases the jobs are not there, or the jobs at decent wages are not there. Why don't we make a commitment to making sure that people find employment? That is dignity.

We have communities where there are compelling needs—there is elder care, there is child care, there is housing rehab, there is community crime prevention, there is teacher's assistance, there is environmental cleanup, all sorts of work to be done and people who can't find any jobs. I will introduce a bill that will provide people—we have now a 5 million job gap between people that want to work and jobs vacant—provide people with a transition whereby they have a job for a year at a decent wage with these benefits, and then can transition to private sector. We need to get more private capital in these communities. But when you have people in our rural areas, our ghettos and our barrios who have worked and worked on community-building jobs and have the dignity and build up some of the skills, then private sector gets more interested in these communities. But right now in a lot of communities in our country, people are crying out, where are the jobs?

Mr. President, we can do much better. We have to make these investments. I am saying to my colleagues today on the floor of the Senate that as we go into the next century there are some contradictions we cannot live with. There are some contradictions in this city, Washington, DC, right here in this city, and all across the country. We have to make sure that we are investing in communities. We have to make sure we are investing in children. We have to make sure we are investing in education, and not just in education for some children, not just affordable child care for some children, not just health care for some citizens. If we are going to argue that these are priorities, then we have to back the rhetoric with the resources. We have to make the investment.

Mr. President, I worry that at the very time where we have the best chance to make this investment—at a time of real optimism, at a time when I think people in the country feel good and know that we can do better, that justice, fairness, opportunity, building communities and building leadership are things that we can do—we are going to miss the opportunity by making speeches but not following up the speeches, by not really meaning what we say, and not really making the investment.

President Clinton, thank you for pinpointing some of these initiatives. Republican colleagues, maybe in areas like child care we can come together. I hope we can. But for the President and all my colleagues, we can't outline problems and say we are committed to making a huge difference and then not make the investment that is anywhere near the scale of what needs to be done to make a difference. We can do much better than what the President out-

lined in his address for children, we can do much better for education, we can do much better for health care, and we can do much better when it comes to tackling problems with race, gender, poverty, and children in America.

I appreciate what the President has outlined as a first step, but we ought to be doing much better here in the Senate and in the House of Representatives. We ought to be doing much better. This is our chance to make an enormous difference.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for morning business until 2:45 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

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

#### TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER RAY C. SIMMONS, U.S. NAVY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Naval officer, Commander Ray C. Simmons, upon his retirement from the Navy after more than twenty years of commissioned service. Throughout his career, Commander Simmons has served with distinction, and it is my privilege to recognize his many accomplishments and to commend him for the superb service he has provided the Navy and the nation.

Commander Simmons entered the United States Naval Academy from the State of New Hampshire in 1973 and was commissioned as an Ensign upon graduation in 1977. Since then, Commander Simmons has spent his career patrolling the world's oceans as a Naval Flight Officer and oceanographer. Following flight training, he began his service in Patrol Squadron Four in Barbers Point, Hawaii, making three deployments to the western Pacific, Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, including operations in support of the 1979-80 Iranian hostage crisis. In 1990, he joined the staffs of the United States Sixth Fleet and NATO Strike Force South, embarked on USS *Belknap*, homeported in Gaeta, Italy. During the Persian Gulf War, Commander Simmons, as Fleet oceanographer, served as a member of the TLAM cruise missile targeting team, planning strikes on Iraq from the eastern Mediterranean Sea. He also served as Flag Lieutenant and personal aide to the Sixth Fleet Commander.

When not at sea, Commander Simmons has likewise served with distinction on the staffs of Patrol Wing Two and the Chief of Naval Operations, in the Naval Western Oceanography Center and as Aide and acting Deputy Executive Assistant to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He served with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as the first Department of Defense liaison officer for joint NASA-Defense earth science applications programs. In 1995, he commanded the United States Naval Ice Center, with additional responsibility as Director of the joint Coast Guard, Navy and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration United States National Ice Center, and served as the lead Department of Defense lead technical advisor to the Russia-United States Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission Environmental Working Group. Among Commander Simmons's many awards and decorations are the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy Expeditionary Medals and the Southwest Asia Service Medal. He is both a qualified Naval Flight Officer and Naval oceanographer.

During his more than twenty year career, Commander Simmons has served the United States Navy and the nation with excellence and distinction. He has been an integral member of, and contributed greatly to, the best-trained, best-equipped and best-prepared naval force in the history of the world. Commander Simmons's unflappable leadership, integrity, and limitless energy have had a profound and positive impact on the United States Navy and the nation.

Commander Simmons will retire from the United States Navy on March 1, 1998, after twenty years and nine months of dedicated commissioned service. On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I wish Commander Simmons fair winds and following seas. Congratulations on completion of an outstanding and successful career.

#### RETIREMENT OF CAPTAIN JOHN LYNCH

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man a number of us, especially those who are members of the Armed Services Committee, have come to know over the past several years, Captain John Lynch who retired from the United States Navy during the Christmas Recess.

There are few careers more demanding or rewarding than those in our armed forces, and in, 1972, John Lynch joined the Navy. Despite Richard Nixon's overwhelming re-election to the Presidency, this was a tension charged era in our Nation, we were in the waning days of our involvement in Vietnam and most young people were seeking ways to avoid military service. Few people were actually entering the