

young adults worshipping with pride and intensity. The dissidents we met reported that a substantial number of political offenders have been freed and the atmosphere seems to them "more relaxed."

Cuba's repressive communist regime has survived, if not thrived, for 38 years in economic isolation from the United States. When a policy has failed that long, isn't it time to try something else? In my view, a policy of contact, trade, cultural exchanges and dialogue, just as we had with the communist states of Europe, could well lead to a more open, free-market economy and more political diversity in Cuba. Even if it doesn't, it won't be any less effective than the policy we've been following these past 38 years.●

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MASSACRE OF PRO-DEMOCRACY DEMONSTRATORS ON TIANANMEN SQUARE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of a Senate resolution at the desk which would express the sense of the Senate on the ninth anniversary of the massacre of prodemocracy demonstrators on Tiananmen Square in China. I ask further consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I find myself in the awkward position of having to object to consideration of my own resolution. I want to make this clear that I am doing this solely as a courtesy to the Democratic leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am really surprised and shocked that apparently there is objection on the Democratic side of the aisle to consideration of this important resolution. I had hoped that we would consider this evening a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate upon the ninth anniversary of the tragic massacre of Chinese students in Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989.

My resolution, had I been permitted to proceed with it this evening, was co-sponsored by the distinguished majority leader, by the Senator from Arkansas, Senator HUTCHINSON, and by the Senator from Michigan, Senator ABRAHAM. Regrettably, my colleagues from the Democratic side of the aisle have blocked consideration of this resolution. I would, however, like to take a moment to explain why I consider it to be very important.

Mr. President, 9 years ago, thousands of students were peaceably assembled on Tiananmen Square in Beijing, peacefully protesting their government's refusal to permit them even the most basic freedoms of expression, association, and political activity.

As a symbol of their hopes and aspirations for a democratic China, these students constructed a scale model of our own Statue of Liberty. It was to

them, as it is to us and to untold millions around the world, a symbol of freedom's promise for people everywhere. Quoting Thomas Jefferson, these brave Chinese students spoke eloquently of the need for China to develop democratic institutions, and finally to allow a degree of political progress to match its dramatic economic change and development in recent years.

Nine years ago today—today—the excitement and the promise of this Chinese democracy movement were extinguished as troops and armored vehicles were ordered into action against the peaceful students. Mr. President, it may never be known exactly how many died in the resulting bloodbath, but hundreds of Chinese demonstrators were certainly killed and many thousands more were arrested for so-called counterrevolutionary offenses that consisted only of attempting to assert rights that it is the duty of civilized governments everywhere to observe, protect and promote.

I am wearing, Mr. President, a ribbon to commemorate just one of those political prisoners from that very sad period.

I had hoped to introduce and have the Senate pass this resolution to make very clear to everyone in this country and, indeed, around the globe that the U.S. Senate has not forgotten what occurred in Tiananmen Square 9 years ago today.

Mr. President, my resolution sought to do no more than to make clear that what occurred on June 4, 1989, was profoundly wrong and that we should not permit ourselves or our Government ever to forget this. This resolution would have merely expressed the sense of the Senate that our Government should remain committed to honoring the memory and the spirit of the Chinese citizens who died on Tiananmen Square and that assisting China's peaceful transition to democracy should be a principal goal of our foreign policy.

Mr. President, it is important that we remember Tiananmen Square today precisely because we do enjoy increasingly close ties with the regime in Beijing. Relations with the People's Republic of China are—and must—be a continual balancing act. The memory of Tiananmen Square should help us find the appropriate bounds, preventing us from giving way to a wholly unchecked enthusiasm in U.S.-Chinese relations by disregarding the fundamental nature of the regime with which we are dealing. China is not a democracy, after all, and its government still has few qualms about using armed force to suppress the legitimate aspirations of its people for basic liberties.

I do not expect democracy to flower overnight in China. But it is today quite clear that China is capable of democracy. The very strength of the student movement that Communist authorities tried to crush on Tiananmen Square nine years ago attests to the

powerful appeal that democracy and human rights have in China. The successes of pro-democracy candidates in Hong Kong's recent elections also attest to how strong democratic ideals can be in China when not suppressed by autocrats intent upon preserving their own power and privileges. Most of all, the new and thriving democracy on Taiwan stands as the clearest indication that the phrase "Chinese democracy" is not an oxymoron. In fact, the phrase "Chinese democracy is a ray of hope for a quarter of our planet's population."

This is why it is important always to keep Tiananmen Square in our minds as we pursue our "engagement" with China. While we cannot ignore China and its huge population, neither can we ignore the human rights abuses committed by its government. Sound public policymaking is about pragmatism, but it is about the pragmatic pursuit of principles. Without principle, pragmatism is no more than a fraud, a process that lacks a purpose; there is no substitute for an underlying moral compass. This is why I very much wanted to introduce my resolution today: in U.S.-China relations, the memory of Tiananmen Square is one of the cardinal points on our moral compass, without which we cannot navigate.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the resolution I would have introduced be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. RES.—

Whereas in the spring of 1989, thousands of students demonstrated in Tiananmen Square in Beijing in favor of greater democracy, civil liberties, and freedom of expression in the People's Republic of China (PRC);

Whereas these students' protests against political repression in their homeland were conducted peacefully and posed no threat to their fellow Chinese citizens;

Whereas on the evening of June 4, 1989, these students were brutally attacked by infantry and armored vehicles of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) acting under orders from the highest political and military leadership of the PRC;

Whereas hundreds of these students were killed by the PLA in Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989 for offenses no more serious than that of seeking peacefully to assert their most basic human, civil, and political rights;

Whereas many of the leaders of the student demonstrations thus attacked were subsequently imprisoned, sought out for arrest, or otherwise persecuted by the Government of the PRC;

Whereas during or shortly after the brutal assault of June 4, 1989, at least 2,500 persons were arrested for so-called "counter-revolutionary offenses" across China and dozens of persons were executed;

Whereas the Chinese government has never expressed regret for its actions on June 4, 1989, still imprisons at least 150 persons in connection with the Tiananmen Square demonstrations, and has continued to deny its citizens basic internationally-recognized human, civil, and political rights;

Whereas the Government of the PRC, as detailed in successive annual reports on

human rights by the United States Department of State, still routinely and systematically violates the rights of its citizens, including their rights to freedom of speech, assembly, worship, and peaceful dissent; and

Whereas the Tiananmen Square Massacre has become indelibly etched into the political consciousness of our times as a symbol both of the impossibility of forever denying a determined people the right to control their own destiny and of the oppressiveness and brutality of governments that seek to do so: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That, in the interest of expressing support for the observance of human, civil, and political rights in China and around the world, it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the United States Government should remain committed to honoring the memory and spirit of the brave citizens of China who suffered and died in Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989 for attempting to assert their internationally-recognized rights; and

(2) supporting the peaceful transition to democratic governance and the observance of internationally-recognized human, civil, and political rights and the rule of law in China should be a principal goal of United States foreign policy.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President.

#### COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA LAS VEGAS COLLEGIATE GOLF TEAM ON THEIR NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

Ms. COLLINS. I now ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 243 submitted earlier today by Senators BRYAN and REID.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 243) to commend and congratulate the University of Nevada Las Vegas men's golf team on winning the team's first National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. COLLINS. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 243) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 243

Whereas the University of Nevada Las Vegas Rebels men's golf team shot four rounds of golf at a total of 1118 strokes for a total of 34 under par, to beat the second place Clemson Tigers by three strokes;

Whereas this score of 34 under par set a tournament record by 11 strokes;

Whereas Chris Berry shot a total of 272 strokes for 16 under par to finish second in individual competition, to help ensure the championship for the Rebels;

Whereas the University of Nevada Las Vegas men's collegiate golf team has dis-

played outstanding dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the course of the season in achieving collegiate golf's highest honor; and

Whereas the Rebels have brought pride and honor to the State of Nevada: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of Nevada Las Vegas for winning the 1998 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I men's collegiate national golf championship;

(2) commends Chris Berry, for his second place individual finish at the National Collegiate Athletic Association golf championship;

(3) recognizes the achievements of all the players, coaches, and staff who were instrumental in helping the University of Nevada Las Vegas win the 1998 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I men's collegiate national golf championship and invites them to the Capitol to be honored in an appropriate manner to be determined;

(4) requests that the President recognize the accomplishments and achievements of the 1998 University of Nevada Las Vegas Rebels golf team and invite the team to Washington, D.C. for the traditional White House ceremony held for national championship teams; and

(5) directs the Secretary of the Senate to make available enrolled copies of this resolution to the University of Nevada Las Vegas for appropriate display and to transmit an enrolled copy to each member of the 1998 University of Nevada Las Vegas National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I men's collegiate national championship golf team.

#### RECOGNIZING DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 102, introduced earlier today by Senator ROCKEFELLER and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 102) recognizing disabled American veterans.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, as the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I, along with Senators SPECTER, LOTT, and DASCHLE submit a Senate Concurrent Resolution that will allow the Disabled American Veterans to sponsor an event on the U.S. Capitol grounds on June 16 and 17, 1998, during which they will donate 147 transportation vans to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Senator SPECTER, Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and I were asked to help coordinate this unique event, and we are grateful for the support of the Leadership on both sides of the aisle. As my colleagues are aware, Senator SPECTER is unable to be here today due to recent surgery.

Mr. President, the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) was chartered by the

Congress of the United States in 1932 and serves as an incredibly strong advocate for our Nation's disabled veterans. In 1987, as part of their mission, DAV organized a nationwide transportation program to help sick and disabled veterans receive the essential medical care they so desperately need. From the time of its inception to the present, DAV will have donated 750 vans in support of this program.

In my state of West Virginia, thousands of veterans live in rural areas, miles from the nearest VA medical center, and often in areas with no public transportation. So I am acutely aware of how veterans not only in West Virginia, but from coast to coast, rely on the DAV transportation program to receive essential medical care. I am proud to have worked with DAV to help foster this program.

I ask all of my colleagues to join us in supporting legislation to authorize use of the Capitol Grounds for this remarkable event. And I, along with Senators SPECTER, LOTT, and DASCHLE, commend DAV for their donation and work on behalf of our Nation's veterans.

Ms. COLLINS. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related to the concurrent resolution be printed in the RECORD at the appropriate place as if read.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 102) reads as follows:

#### S. CON. RES. 102

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),*

#### SECTION 1. USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS EVENT.

Disabled American Veterans shall be permitted to sponsor a public event on the West Front Lawn of the Capitol on June 16 and 17, 1998, or on such other dates as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate, in order announce the donation of 147 vans to the Department of Veterans Affairs by Disabled American Veterans.

#### SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The event authorized by section 1 shall be free of admission charge to the public and arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress, under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—Disabled American Veterans shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

#### SEC. 3. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

(a) STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT.—Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, Disabled American Veterans may erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event authorized by section 1.

(b) ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board are authorized to make any such additional arrangements as may be required to carry out the event, including arrangements