

I believe the numbers of highly accurate, deadly and survivable nuclear weapons needed to protect the United States today and in the future is in the 1,000 to 1,500 range, considerably less than either the 6,000 permitted under START I which has been ratified by the United States and Russia, or the 3,000 permitted after 2007 under START II, which the Russian Duma may yet ratify this year. I believe both common sense and careful evaluation of targeting requirements would support going to this lower number much more rapidly than we will under the START process. I believe such a reduction would make it far more likely we would succeed in reducing the growing threat of nuclear proliferation and the growing desire of non-nuclear nations to go nuclear. Finally, I believe such a reduction would increase the chances of getting Russia to cooperate with the deployment of a missile defense system that would benefit both them and us.

Mr. President, regardless of whether or not my colleagues agree with this assessment I hope they will agree that the status quo modified with improved defenses is a strategy which will increase the risk that the world will experience a third hostile nuclear detonation, and that this time the detonation could occur in our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for up to 10 minutes.

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

THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, our economy is in great shape: 108 months of economic growth; unemployment has been near 4 percent for some time; economic growth is doing very well; productivity is breaking all recent records; incomes of average Americans are finally growing again, and inflation, outside of gasoline, is low. I think we ought to take advantage of our situation by paying off the publicly held debt while times are good.

The President proposes that we should plan on doing that by 2013, just the point when large numbers of the post-World War II baby boomers are reaching 65. That way we shore up the capacity to be able to repay the bonds that have been going to the Social Security trust fund.

I also believe we should use the surplus to put the Medicare trust fund on a sound footing for the long term. We should also be providing for a prescription drug benefit. It is wrong that many modest-income seniors do not have the ability to buy the drugs they need for their health care.

I would also like to see the expenditures made to cover the costs of our veterans' health, increased medical research, increased funds for education, and for day care. These are some key priorities.

Clearly, however, the No. 1 priority presented by the majority in the budget resolution before us is to cut taxes for the wealthy. When you add the interest costs from failing to reduce the debt, the \$150 billion cut in taxes that is in the budget resolution before us uses up 98 percent of the non-Social Security surplus. That assumes cutting some nondefense discretionary spending. If you take the \$150 billion tax cut that is in the budget, and if you don't cut spending on the discretionary side, that tax cut actually eats up over 100 percent of the non-Social Security surplus. So in order to get the \$150 billion cut in taxes, the Republican majority on the Budget Committee actually had to cut spending in a number of areas. Even with that cut, that \$150 billion tax cut uses up 98 percent of that surplus. There is virtually nothing left over for improving the health of the Social Security trust fund or the Medicare trust fund. There is very little chance to provide for a Medicare prescription drug benefit. It is going to be very difficult, if not impossible, to provide increases for education, medical research, veterans' health, money to fight crime, and other priorities without eroding the Social Security surplus.

Personally, I would like to see us give some tax relief to younger families with modest incomes trying to raise their children, to families with considerable child care expenses, to families who have expenses caring for aging parents. I would like to reduce the penalty of higher taxes when two people marry and both work.

The Democratic budget we have offered provides for many of those targeted tax cuts while still meeting the other needs such as for health care and fighting crime and medical research.

I would like to pay for tax cuts by eliminating some of the outrageous loopholes in the Tax Code that allow huge multinational corporations to escape paying their fair share of taxes. I would like to see some loopholes closed that allow some of the wealthy to escape paying their fair share. That, unfortunately, does not appear to be the will of the Republican majority on the Budget Committee. It certainly was not their will when they passed out the budget resolution on a straight party-line vote. So I will be offering an amendment that says if we are going to enact—if we are, and if it is the will of the majority party to enact the \$150 billion in tax cuts mandated by the budget; and that was the same sum agreed to in the House by, I might add, a narrow 4 vote margin—I want to have the Senate go on record that whatever tax cuts are passed follow a very simple rule: that those at the highest level of income—the top 1 percent—not receive more than 1 percent of the tax cuts. I will be offering an amendment that essentially says it is the sense of the Senate that if we do have a tax cut, no more than 1 percent of the tax cut benefits can go to the top 1 percent income earners.

Doesn't that sound fair? If you are in the top 1 percent, maybe you ought to get 1 percent of the cuts. Who is at that level of income? Well, those who are making what is now estimated to be more than \$317,000 per year. This group, on average, makes \$915,000 a year. So the average income of the top 1 percent income earners in America is \$915,000 a year. I believe it is clear that people at this income level do not need a large tax cut, while many working families are in far greater need.

So I hope the Senate will go on record saying that we have a limit on any tax cut, that those at the very top are receiving no more than 1 percent of the benefits, and let's give the middle class their fair share of the tax break.

I have a chart that I think provides some illustration. First, we have the George Bush tax cut proposal. Let's look at how the benefits of that proposal work. It is a very large cut. But under this Bush plan, as estimated by Citizens For Tax Justice, the bottom 20 percent of the taxpayers get 0.6 percent of the tax cuts, less than 1 percent. The next 20 percent get about 3 percent of the tax cuts. The next 20 percent get about 7.4 percent of the tax cuts. The fourth one—those who make, on average, about \$50,000 a year—gets 15.4 percent of the tax benefits. But here is where we really have to look, out here on this end. Those in the top 1 percent, making over \$319,000 a year—and they average about \$915,000 a year—these folks in "need" get about 37 percent of the benefits. They get a higher percentage than anybody else and, in dollar amounts, they get about \$50,000 a year in tax breaks.

So, again, this is what we are facing. Why do people in the upper 1 percent need this kind of a tax break? I don't hear it from them. I must admit, I know some people in that bracket. I have some good friends who make that kind of money. They are good Americans and they invest a lot of money. A lot of them work very hard, and they employ people. I have yet to have one of them tell me they need this tax cut. In fact, I have had a number of them say: What are you doing? Pay off the public debt; don't give us a tax break. Pay off the public debt. That would do more for ensuring the economic health of this country than giving the top 1 percent that kind of a tax break.

Well, that is why I want to offer this amendment. It is very simple. It provides that the top 1 percent of taxpayers should not get any more than 1 percent of the tax cuts—net. After all, the bottom 20 percent gets less than 1 percent of the tax cuts. Why should the top 1 percent get 37 percent?

So my amendment says if you are in that top 1 percent, you should not get more than 1 percent of the tax breaks. So if you are for tax fairness, if you want to give the middle-class Americans their fair share of tax relief, then I ask for your support of this commonsense amendment.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until the hour of 9:30 a.m., April 5, 2000.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:56 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 5, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate April 4, 2000:

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

BARBARA W. SNELLING, OF VERMONT, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 19, 2001, VICE DENNIS L. BARK, TERM EXPIRED.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

ROBERT B. ROGERS, OF MISSOURI, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2001, VICE MARLEE MATLIN, TERM EXPIRED.

CAROL W. KINSLEY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR. (NEW POSITION)

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

JANE LUBCHENCO, OF OREGON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 10, 2006. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

WARREN M. WASHINGTON, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 10, 2006. (REAPPOINTMENT)

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. HARRY D. RADUEGE, JR., 0000

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. THOMAS A. BENES, 0000
COL. CHRISTIAN B. COWDREY, 0000
COL. MICHAEL E. ENNIS, 0000
COL. WALTER E. GASKIN, SR., 0000
COL. MICHAEL R. LEHNERT, 0000
COL. JOSEPH J. MC MENAMIN, 0000
COL. DUANE D. THIESSEN, 0000
COL. GEORGE J. TRAUTMAN III, 0000
COL. WILLIE J. WILLIAMS, 0000
COL. RICHARD C. ZILMER, 0000

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. EDMUND P. GIAMBASTIANI, JR., 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS, UNITED STATES NAVY, AND APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 5142:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) BARRY C. BLACK, 0000

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

DAVID S. WOOD, 0000

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT (IDENTIFIED BY AN ASTERISK (*) IN THE MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS (MS) AND MEDICAL CORPS (MC) UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531, 624 AND 3064:

To be colonel

RICHARD A. KELLER, 0000 MC

To be lieutenant colonel

ROBERT E. GRAY, 0000 MS
RICHARD A. GULLICKSON, 0000 MS

To be major

WENDY L. HARTER, 0000 MS

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

J. E. CHRISTIANSEN, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

CLIFTON J. MCCULLOUGH, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

LANDON K. THORNE III, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

DAVID R. CHEVALLIER, 0000
KENNETH S. PLATO, 0000
MICHAEL A. SIEBE, 0000
JOHN K. WINZELER, 0000

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be captain

ROBERT F. MILEWSKI, 0000

To be commander

GERALD L. GRAY, 0000

To be lieutenant commander

LINDA M. GARDNER, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR PROMOTION IN THE NAVY OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be captain

THOMAS A. ALLINGHAM, 0000
KEITH J. ALLED, 0000
WARREN ANDERSON, 0000
JOHN R. ARAGON, 0000
DENNIS J. ARGALL, 0000
ERICK L. ARMSTRONG, 0000
MICHAEL A. ARROW, 0000
MATTHEW S. AUSMUS, 0000
ROCCO M. BABINEC, 0000
STEVEN L. BAILEY, 0000
WENDY A. BAILEY, 0000
DAVID M. BALK, 0000
DUNCAN S. BARLOW, 0000
PATRICIA J. BATTIN, 0000
LANCE S. BAUMGARTEN, 0000
RICHARD A. BEANE, 0000
DAVID J. BEARDSLEY, 0000
KATHRYN M. BEASLEY, 0000
CHARLES W. BELL, 0000
BRAD L. BENNETT, 0000
GREGORY S. BENSON, 0000
JENNIFER S. BERG, 0000
KEVIN G. BERRY, 0000
THOMAS F. BERSSON, 0000
THOMAS S. BETHMANN, 0000
ROBERT J. BIRDWELL, 0000
MAX A. BLACK, 0000
JEFFREY D. BRADLEY, 0000
OSCAR S. BRANN, 0000
CHARLENE D. BRASSINGTON, 0000
TERRILL L. BROWN, 0000
WILLIAM A. BROWN, 0000
WILLIAM T. BUSCH, 0000
LYDIA CANAVAN, 0000
FRANK H. CARBER, JR., 0000
MICHAEL P. CARLSON, 0000
DANIEL J. CARUCCI, 0000
JONATHAN E. CAYLE, 0000
KIM C. CHOJNOWSKI, 0000
MARGARET A. CONNORS, 0000
ANDREW L. CORWIN, 0000
CATHERINE L. COSTIN, 0000
JAMES W. COWELL, JR., 0000
CARLETON R. CRAMER, 0000
CURTIS E. CUMINGS, 0000
TIMOTHY J. CURTIN, 0000
CHRISTINE J. CURTIO, 0000
JOHN A. DALESSANDRO, 0000
GARY A. DALLMANN, 0000
JOHN C. DANIEL, 0000
JAMES L. DANNER, 0000
THERESA A. DANSUCKSLOAN, 0000
JOSEPH W. DEFFO, JR., 0000
DAVID M. DELVECCHIO, 0000
CAROL J. DESMARAIS, 0000
CYNTHIA A. DILORENZO, 0000
CHARLES F. DONNEY, 0000
DANIEL G. DONOVAN, 0000
ULYSSES DOWNING, JR., 0000
PAUL S. DROHAN, 0000
JAY DUDLEY, 0000
JAMES L. DUNN, 0000
DOROTHY C. DURY, 0000
KATHLEEN M. DUSSAULT, 0000
KIRK F. ENGEL, 0000
DAVID C. ENGLAND, 0000
MICHAEL R. ESLINGER, 0000
CLINTON F. FAISON III, 0000
DAVID E. FARRAND, 0000
PAUL V. FLONDARINA, 0000
MICHAEL B. FOGARTY, 0000
ROBERT D. FOSS, 0000
HAROLD A. FRAZIER II, 0000
ROBERT W. FRENCK, 0000
KEVIN J. GALLAGHER, 0000
RICHARD O. GAMBLE II, 0000
PATRICIA M. GARRITY, 0000
JEFFREY D. GEORGIA, 0000
DAVID W. GLYNN, 0000
PATRICIA J. GOODIN, 0000
MICHAEL E. GORDON, 0000
BASIL F. GRAY III, 0000
ANTHONY R. GUIDO, 0000
BARTON C. GUMPBERT, JR., 0000
RICHARD L. J. HABERBERGER, 0000
WILLIAM J. HALL, 0000
ROGER E. HANKS, 0000
RICHARD M. HANN, 0000
DONNA M. HAUGHINBERRY, 0000
MARK F. HEINRICH, 0000
SUSAN B. HERROLD, 0000
DAVID A. HIGGINS, 0000
GARRY A. HIGGINS, 0000
ALBERT L. HILL, 0000
KAREN J. HOFFMEISTER, 0000
MARGARET A. HOLDER, 0000
MICHAEL R. HOLTEL, 0000
JAMES W. HOUCK, 0000
LISA G. HOYT, 0000
RICHARD J. HREZO, 0000
JOSEPH F. IANNONE, 0000
WALTER W. JACUNSKI, 0000
CRAIG E. JAMES, 0000
IGOR A. JERCINOVICH, 0000
TRACY JOHNSON, 0000
TREVOR R. JONES, 0000
RICHARD M. KEATING, 0000
MICHAEL A. KEEFE, 0000
PATRICK J. KELLY, 0000
GERARD D. KENNEDY, 0000
THOMAS J. KERSCH, 0000
DANIEL P. KING, 0000
JOYCE E. KING, 0000
PHILIP J. KING, 0000
WARREN P. KLAM, 0000
MICHAEL P. KOMPANIK, 0000
JOHN R. LANTELME, 0000
WAYNE B. LAPTODA, 0000
SUSETTE J. LASHER, 0000
DONALD F. LEROW, 0000
WILLIAM P. LESAK, 0000
DAVID M. LLEWELLYN, 0000
DARRELL E. LOVINS, 0000
PAUL W. LUND, 0000
JOHN P. LUNDGREN, 0000
JAMES T. LUZ, 0000
BRUCE W. MACKENZIE, 0000
CYNTHIA T. I. MACRI, 0000
THOMAS J. MAGRINO, 0000
STEVEN G. MATTHEWS, 0000
MICHELLE M. MCATEE, 0000
LAURIER L. MCCRAVEY, 0000
TIMOTHY D. MCGUIRK, 0000
WILLIAM C. MCKERRALL, 0000
DOUGLAS H. MCNEILL, 0000
JANE E. MEAD, 0000
KEVIN J. MEARS, 0000
RICHARD A. MENDEZ, 0000
PAUL G. MERCHANT, 0000
CHARLES C. MILLER III, 0000
EDWARD L. MILLNER, JR., 0000
BERTRAM E. MOORE, JR., 0000
GREGORY MORANDO, 0000
JOHN I. MORRIS, 0000
DAVID M. MORRIS, 0000
STEPHEN E. MORROW, 0000
CHRISTOPHER J. MOSSEY, 0000
EDWIN E. MYHRE, 0000
JAMES P. NABER, 0000
JOSEPH A. NAPOLI, JR., 0000
EDWARD F. NAPOLIO, 0000
TOMMY B. NICHOLS, 0000
EDWARD J. NIEBELLEIN, 0000
KENNETH R. OCKER, 0000
JESUS A. M. OLCESSE, 0000
CHRISTOPHER D. PADDOCK, 0000
ROBERT F. PARKER, 0000
FRANCIS R. PARREIRA, 0000
MICHAEL A. PEEK, 0000
MARK PICKETT, 0000
CHRISTOPHER RAMOS, 0000
ROBERT A. RAMSAY, 0000
DONALD E. RATTZ, 0000
KEVEN C. REED, 0000
WILLIAM A. REED, 0000
DONALD J. REIDY, JR., 0000
DENISE A. REILLY, 0000
JAMES L. ROBERTS, 0000
TIMOTHY J. ROSS, 0000
RICHARD D. ROTH, JR., 0000