

It is not enough that we just complain about waste, fraud, and abuse. My little program, called Integrity Watch, is designed to ask in some detail how can we make it better. Do we need legislation to be passed? Do we need regulations to be changed? Do we need to cut off funding? What do we need to do to improve a situation? In this case, I would say the Berry amendment is adequate. It does the task. What the problem was a cavalier attitude about how it should be administered. I also think there was an unnecessary rush to produce the berets, and it cost us a considerable amount of money, a \$26 million total contract price. So I believe the actions of the Defense Department in reinvigorating and highlighting the need to enforce the Berry amendment, to raise up the level of the personnel of the Defense Logistics Agency before anybody can grant a waiver, will probably solve that.

So I don't think legislation is needed. I am certainly not of the view that we need to pass legislation to direct how the Chief of Staff of the Army decides emergency matters. I hope through this experience, however, that he will have learned a lesson, and those who work with him will have learned a lesson, that sometimes it is better to go slow, not to set deadlines and goals that are too fast because the costs can be paid by the taxpayer and you can end up with problems such as we had in this case. You can end up with a situation where a nation is supplying berets that we don't intend to use. You can end up with a situation where contracts, because they were rushed, got canceled and where it cost more money and ended up delaying distribution of the berets.

I think this is worth highlighting. I appreciate the GAO for doing an objective and fair analysis of the situation. It was not a bright day for the Depart-

ment of Defense. In fact, it was a clear error—a kind of problem that should not have occurred. But it did occur. I believe we have all learned from it and, hopefully, in the future, this will be avoided as we go forward with the additional procurement we will be facing to make sure the men and women in uniform have the equipment, clothing, and resources they need to do the important jobs with which they are challenged.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 12:30 P.M.,
MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Monday, December 17.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:14 p.m., adjourned until Monday, December 17, 2001, at 12:30 p.m.