

is very hard to budget for natural disasters. Nobody knows the extent or when they will occur. As a result, we have always dealt with disaster spending as an emergency outside the budget.

Now, how much money is being talked about here? Mr. President, \$4.5 billion for 2 years of disasters. And this is a national bill. This is not restricted to one region, one location. This will assist anybody who had a loss of at least 35 percent. And if you have a loss of at least 35 percent, only then do you start to get any assistance; and then you only get a percentage of the loss, 50 percent covered. So you get nothing on the first 35 percent of loss, nothing. Only if you have a loss of at least 35 percent do you get anything. If your loss is over 35 percent, you will get assistance on a highly restricted basis.

The bankers of my State have told me if this kind of assistance is not forthcoming, 5 to 10 percent of the farmers and ranchers in our State will go out of business, not because of any fault of theirs, but because of the most incredible swing in weather that we have ever seen.

Last year, we had flooding that prevented a million acres from even being planted. It was not even planted. This year, we have had the third worst drought, according to the scientists, in our Nation's history, a drought that Senator DORGAN and I saw firsthand in a tour with our Governor and agricultural leaders of our State.

I even saw irrigated corn—irrigated corn—in which the ears never filled out because the heat was so unbelievably intense. In one day in my hometown, it was 112 degrees. I am not talking about the heat index. I am talking about the actual temperature, 112 degrees.

In July and August of this last year, we had extreme temperatures day after day after day, and no rain. It was devastating. And it is just not my State. It is right down the heartland of the country: South Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, over into Minnesota, Montana.

There are 26 cosponsors of this bill. It is fully bipartisan. This legislation has passed overwhelmingly in the Senate with 77 votes.

So I just say to my colleagues, I was given a commitment yesterday that we would go to the Agriculture appropriations bill today, and that I would have a chance to offer my amendment; that Senators could raise any objections they might have. They could raise a rule XVI objection. By the way, we now know that would not lie against our bill. We also know that they could raise a budget point of order. That would require a supermajority vote. We are fully prepared to do that and to accept the will of the body.

But what is not fair is not to have a vote. And what is especially not fair is not to keep the commitment that was made yesterday publicly and privately that we would go to the Agriculture appropriations bill today and have an

opportunity for a vote. That was the commitment that was made. This leaves me with no alternative but to object to going to other business. I will make that objection. And if I have to do it repeatedly, I will make it repeatedly.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator LAUTENBERG be recognized for 10 minutes and that I be recognized at the end of that period.

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

The Senator from New Jersey.

#### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from North Dakota for enabling me to make some remarks about the war and where things are as we see them.

It has been more than a month since we were last together in the Senate. While we were out of session, the war in Iraq continued to rage. We in the Congress had the pleasure of going home to our families, our friends, familiar circumstances and surroundings. Our troops in Iraq, however, didn't have that opportunity while we were off, so to speak, for almost 6 weeks. Everyone knows that we did work at home, but we were in familiar, safe territory. The troops were in harm's way, trying to bring order to a country in absolute chaos.

Tragically, many of our people there did not survive since the Senate was last in session. During the recess, America lost 157 brave men and women in combat, 146 in Iraq and 11 in Afghanistan, and 649 were seriously wounded. Most of us have been to Walter Reed and the naval hospital in Bethesda and had opportunities to talk to some of those people who are so seriously wounded, some limbless, some sightless. Their pain goes way beyond that which is directly part of their wound; their pain goes on for the rest of their lives.

Now here we are, almost at Thanksgiving. Americans are looking forward to sharing a holiday with family and friends. But in this season of giving and cheer, we have to find a serious way to give some cheer, some recognition for the sacrifices of our soldiers. Outside my office, I have found a way to express thanks to them. We have established a photographic display of those who have lost their lives. It is called the "Faces of the Fallen." It is visited daily by tourists and others

who search the gallery for people they may have known from a hometown or region.

Today I offer another way to honor our courageous men and women. I am going to place the names and hometowns of the 157 troops that we lost since the Senate was last in session in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Too often when we talk about our fallen troops, they become faceless, if it is not your family, statistics, but we don't want that anymore. We want to recognize, and the American people want to recognize, what is really happening to the fathers, mothers, sisters, and children. They are our children, and many have children of their own.

Among those who perished are PFC Donald S. Brown, 19 years of age, from Succasunna, NJ. I attended his wake 2 weeks ago, met with his family, and LCpl Christopher B. Cosgrove III of Cedar Knolls, NJ. There are many more New Jerseyans who have perished there. The number is almost 80 now. We look around, and they are from States across the country. Almost every State has seen the loss of a former resident, someone with roots in that State:

SGT Bryan Burgess of Garden City, MI;  
SGT Courtland A. Kennard of Starkville, MS;

CWO Miles P. Henderson of Amarillo, TX;  
CPL Kyle W. Powell of Colorado Springs, CO;

SPC James L. Bridges of Buhl, ID;  
LTC Paul J. Finken of Mason City, IA;  
LCpl James Brown of Owensville, IN;  
SSG Jason D. Whitehouse of Phoenix, AZ;  
PFC Jason Franco of Corona, CA;  
SGT Luke J. Zimmerman of Luxemburg, WI;

SGT Thomas M. Gilbert of Downers Grove, IL;

SPC Nicholas K. Rogers of Deltona, FL;  
MAJ David G. Taylor of Apex, NC;  
LCpl Eric W. Herzberg of Severna Park, MD;

CPL Joshua C. Watkins of Jacksonville, FL;

SSG Patrick O. Barlow of Greensboro, NC;  
CPL David M. Unger of Leavenworth, KS;  
SGT Norman R. Taylor of Blythe, CA;  
SSG Garth D. Sizemore of Mount Sterling, KY;

2LT Joshua L. Booth of Fiskdale, MA;  
PFC Keith J. Moore of San Francisco, CA;

and  
1SG Charles M. King of Mobile, AL.

There are too many more to read them all now.

I ask unanimous consent that a full list of the 157 persons be printed in the RECORD.

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

FALLEN HEROES DURING THE SENATE RECESS  
Sergeant Bryan Burgess, of Garden City, Michigan  
Sergeant First Class Rudy A. Salcido, of Ontario, California  
Sergeant Courtland A. Kennard, of Starkville, Mississippi  
Staff Sergeant Gregory W.G. McCoy, of Webberville, Michigan  
Staff Sergeant Richwell A. Doria, of San Diego, California  
Lance Corporal Ryan T. McCaughn, of Manchester, New Hampshire

Sergeant Lucas T. White, of Moses Lake, Washington  
 Chief Warrant Officer John R. Priestner, of Pennsylvania  
 Chief Warrant Officer Miles P. Henderson, of Amarillo, Texas  
 Specialist Douglas C. Desjardins, of Mesa, Arizona  
 Corporal Jose A. Galvan, of San Antonio, Texas  
 Corporal Kyle W. Powell, of Colorado Springs, Colorado  
 Second Lieutenant Mark C. Gelina, of Moberly, Missouri  
 Specialist James L. Bridges, of Buhl, Idaho  
 Lieutenant Colonel Paul J. Finken, of Mason City, Iowa  
 Lieutenant Colonel Eric J. Kruger, of Garland, Texas  
 Staff Sergeant Joseph A. Gage, of Modesto, California  
 Lance Corporal James Brown, of Owensville, Indiana  
 Staff Sergeant Jason D. Whitehouse, of Phoenix, Arizona  
 Corporal Michael H. Lasky, of Sterling, Arkansas  
 Lance Corporal Luke B. Holler, of Bulverde, Texas  
 Private Michael P. Bridges, of Placentia, California  
 Lance Corporal Minhee Kim, of Ann Arbor, Michigan  
 Corporal Gary A. Koehler, of Ypsilanti, Michigan  
 Private First Class Kevin J. Ellenburg, of Middleburg, Florida  
 Private First Class Jason Franco, of Corona, California  
 Sergeant Michael R. Weidemann, of Newport, Rhode Island  
 Sergeant Kraig D. Foyteck, of Skokie, Illinois  
 Sergeant Michael T. Seeley, of Fredrickton, Canada  
 Sergeant Kenneth E. Bostic, of Hawthorne, Nevada  
 Lance Corporal Troy D. Nealey, of Eaton Rapids, Michigan  
 Sergeant Luke J. Zimmerman, of Luxemburg, Wisconsin  
 First Sergeant Ricky L. McGinnis, of Hamilton, Ohio  
 Private First Class Donald S. Brown, of Succasunna, New Jersey  
 Sergeant Thomas M. Gilbert, of Downers Grove, Illinois  
 Private First Class Daniel B. Chaires, of Tallahassee, Florida  
 Lance Corporal Jonathan B. Thornsberry, of McDowell, Kentucky  
 Petty Officer Second Class Charles V. Komppa, of Belgrade, Montana  
 First Lieutenant Amos C.R. Bock, of New Madrid, Missouri  
 Hospital Corpsman Charles O. Sare, of Hemet, California  
 Lance Corporal Richard A. Buerstetta, of Franklin, Tennessee  
 Lance Corporal Tyler R. Overstreet, of Galatin, Tennessee  
 Specialist Carl A. Eason, of Lovelady, Texas  
 Specialist Nicholas K. Rogers, of Deltona, Florida  
 Sergeant Willsun M. Mock, of Harper, Kansas  
 Specialist Matthew W. Creed, of Covina, California  
 Specialist Nathaniel A. Aguirre, of Carrollton, Texas  
 Major David G. Taylor, of Apex, North Carolina  
 Lance Corporal Eric W. Herzberg, of Severtown Park, Maryland  
 Sergeant First Class Tony L. Knier, of Sabinsville, Pennsylvania  
 Corporal Joshua C. Watkins, of Jacksonville, Florida  
 Lance Corporal Nicholas J. Manoukian, of Lathrup Village, Michigan  
 Lance Corporal Nathan R. Elrod, of Salisbury, North Carolina  
 Lance Corporal Clifford R. Collinsworth, of Chelsea, Michigan  
 Staff Sergeant Kevin M. Witte, of Beardley, Minnesota  
 Lance Corporal Edwardo Lopez, Jr., of Aurora, Illinois  
 Staff Sergeant Patrick O. Barlow, of Greensboro, North Carolina  
 Sergeant First Class Daniel A. Brozovich, of Greenville, Pennsylvania  
 Specialist Jose R. Perez, of Ontario, California  
 Specialist Daniel W. Winegeart, of Kountze, Texas  
 Staff Sergeant Ronald L. Paulsen, of Vancouver, Washington  
 Staff Sergeant Jesus M. Montalvo, of Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico  
 Specialist Joseph C. Dumas, Jr., of New Orleans, Louisiana  
 Corporal David M. Unger, of Leavenworth, Kansas  
 Corporal Russell G. Culbertson III, of Amity, Pennsylvania  
 Second Lieutenant Christopher E. Loudon, of Brockport, Pennsylvania  
 Staff Sergeant Ryan E. Haupt, of Phoenix, Arizona  
 Sergeant Norman R. Taylor III, of Blythe, California  
 Petty Officer First Class Nathan J. Frigo, of Kokomo, Indiana  
 Staff Sergeant Garth D. Sizemore, of Mount Sterling, Kentucky  
 Second Lieutenant Joshua L. Booth, of Fiskdale, Massachusetts  
 Sergeant Lester Domenico Baroncini, Jr., of Bakersfield, California  
 Private First Class Stephen Bicknell, of Prattville, Alabama  
 First Lieutenant Joshua Deese, of Robeson County, North Carolina  
 Sergeant Jonathan E. Lootens, of Lyons, New York  
 Captain Mark C. Paine, of Rancho Cucamonga, California  
 Sergeant Brock A. Babb, of Evansville, Indiana  
 Lance Corporal Joshua M. Hines, of Olney, Illinois  
 Private First Class Keith J. Moore, of San Francisco, California  
 First Sergeant Charles M. King, of Mobile, Alabama  
 Staff Sergeant Joseph M. Kane, of Darby, Pennsylvania  
 Specialist Timothy J. Lauer, of Saegertown, Pennsylvania  
 Sergeant Jonathan J. Simpson, of Rockport, Texas  
 Airman First Class Leebenard E. Chavis, of Hampton, Virginia  
 Lieutenant Johnny K. Craver, of McKinney, Texas  
 Private First Class Kenny F. Stanton, Jr., of Hemet, California  
 Private First Class Thomas J. Hewett, of Tempe, Texas  
 Sergeant Gene A. Hawkins, of Orlando, Florida  
 Sergeant Justin T. Walsh, of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio  
 Captain Shane T. Adcock, of Mechanicsville, Virginia  
 Sergeant Nicholas R. Sowinski, of Tempe, Arizona  
 Lance Corporal Shelby J. Feniello, of Connellsville, Pennsylvania  
 Lance Corporal Derek W. Jones, of Salem, Oregon  
 Lance Corporal Jon Eric Bowman, of Dubach, Louisiana  
 Private First Class Phillip B. Williams, of Gardnerville, Nevada  
 Captain Robert M. Secher, of Germantown, Tennessee  
 Private First Class Shane R. Austin, of Edgerton, Kansas  
 Lance Corporal Stephen F. Johnson, of Marietta, Georgia  
 Sergeant Julian M. Arechaga, of Ocean-side, New York  
 Lance Corporal Jeremy Scott Sandvick Monroe, of Chinook, Montana  
 Specialist Timothy Fulkerson, of Utica, Kentucky  
 Specialist John Edward Wood, of Humboldt, Kansas  
 Staff Sergeant Lawrence Parrish, of Lebanon, Missouri  
 Corporal Carl W. Johnson II, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
 Sergeant Brandon S. Asbury, of Tazewell, Virginia  
 Lance Corporal John Edward Hale, of Shreveport, Louisiana  
 Corporal Bradford H. Payne, of Montgomery, Alabama  
 Corporal Nicholas A. Arvanitis, of Salem, New Hampshire  
 Corporal Benjamin S. Rosales, of Honston, Texas  
 Lance Corporal Edward M. Garvin, of Malden, Massachusetts  
 Staff Sergeant Christopher O. Moudry, of Baltimore, Maryland  
 Specialist George R. Obourn Jr., of Creve Coeur, Illinois  
 Specialist Timothy Burke, of Hollywood, Florida  
 Private First Class Dean Bright, of Roseburg, Oregon  
 Staff Sergeant Jonathan Rojas, of Hammond, Indiana  
 Staff Sergeant Daniel Isshak, of Alta Loma, California  
 Sergeant Joseph W. Perry, of Alpine, California  
 Corporal Michael K. Oremus, of Highland, New York  
 Specialist Justin R. Jarrett, of Jonesboro, Georgia  
 Staff Sergeant James D. Ellis, of Valdosta, Georgia  
 Specialist Raymond S. Armijo, of Phoenix, Arizona  
 Specialist Kristofer C. Walker, of Creve Coeur, Illinois  
 Private First Class Satieon V. Greenlee, of Pendleton, South Carolina  
 Staff Sergeant Joe A. Narvaez, of San Antonio, Texas  
 Sergeant Denise A. Lannaman, of Bayside, New York  
 Sergeant Mario Nelson, of Brooklyn, New York  
 Sergeant Chase A. Haag, of Portland, Oregon  
 Captain Justin D. Peterson, of Davisburg, Michigan  
 Lance Corporal Christopher B. Cosgrove III, of Cedar Knolls, New Jersey  
 Corporal Aaron L. Seal, of Elkhart, Indiana  
 Corporal Luis E. Tejada, of Huntington Park, California  
 Sergeant Kampha B. Sourivong, of Iowa City, Iowa  
 Sergeant First Class Scott E. Nisely, of Marshalltown, Iowa  
 Corporal Robert Weber, of Cincinnati, Ohio  
 Petty Officer Second Class Michael A. Monsoor, of Garden Grove, California  
 Private First Class Christopher T. Blaney, of Winter Park, Florida  
 Sergeant Charles J. McClain, of Fort Riley, Kansas  
 Private First Class Alex Ocegüera, of San Bernardino, California  
 Major Douglas E. Sloan, of Charlevoix, Michigan  
 Specialist Isaiah Calloway, of Jacksonville, Florida

Staff Sergeant Kyu H. Chay, of Fayetteville, North Carolina

Private Michael V. Bailey, of Waldorf, Maryland

Specialist Jason A. Lucas, of Columbus, Ohio

Chief Warrant Officer Scott W. Dyer, of Cocoa Beach, Florida

Specialist Fernando D. Robinson, of Hawthorne, California

Angelo J. Vaccaro, of Deltooa Florida

Mr. LAUTENBERG. I want their families to know that they can find their names in the permanent RECORD. Around many dinner tables across the Nation this Thanksgiving, the conversation will no doubt turn to the Iraq war. By this Thanksgiving, we will have been at war in Iraq as long as we were in World War II. I served in that war for almost 3 years. By reading these names today, my hope is that the dinner table conversations will discuss our foreign policy and the reasons that we are there, the reasons that they think put us there. I would ask them to contact their Senators, Representatives in Washington with views and questions that are on their minds.

Think about it. There are proposals now from outstanding leaders in this body suggesting that we need more troops than we have there, when it is the desire of most of us to get out of there. We can argue about timetables and should we have timetables, but we know this: we want our people home. It is shocking to hear suggestions that maybe we ought to be—maybe, that we ought to be sending more troops. Where were those suggestions when General Shinseki, a very high ranking chief of the Army, said to the Pentagon, to the President, to the American people that we ought to have at least 300,000 people on the ground there? Why, then, if this war was planned properly, didn't we respect the opinions of so many senior officers in the military who said we needed more and were denied?

When we hear pleas that say put more troops there, I, for one—I am sure colleagues of mine feel the same way—don't know where they are going to get them. We are stretched thin now. So I think it is a fairly arbitrary suggestion, unless there is a plan accompanying it that says whatever we do, this is what we intend to do. I don't want to get into that argument about timetables, and cut and run. No, stay and die. Is that the alternative that we are talking about? No.

I don't want us to leave in a fashion that negates some of the sacrifices that have been made, but we are now being left alone as other countries pull out the few people who were there as part of a coalition which never really materialized. We want a plan. We want some idea as to what the President, the administration thinks about when we can start to look ahead, think more about it from this side, from the American side, and not have some false hopes, dismal hopes that we are going to be able to stay there and correct this situation without telling the American

people, without telling the Congress that some program has to be presented that says we will not stay there forever. The price is far too costly.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

#### DISASTER RELIEF FOR FARMERS

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I want to say to my colleagues, I hope very much we are able to find some accommodation to work out the situation. I stand ready to try to resolve this matter. I did it yesterday. I withdrew an amendment with the assurance that we would go to the Agriculture appropriations bill today. I really expected that commitment would be kept. I don't know how else this place can run but on the good faith of Members. I did my best to accommodate colleagues yesterday and did so on the assurance, both public and private, that we would go to the Agriculture appropriations bill so we could have a vote—we could have a series of votes, if necessary—on the question of whether we are going to provide disaster assistance to farmers who have been hit by drought, flooding, and other natural disasters, something we have done routinely in the past, frankly, at far greater cost.

One of my colleagues asked me yesterday: How does this compare to disaster bills of the past? We looked it up. One year we had a disaster bill of \$16 billion, natural disaster. Another bill, another year it was \$14 billion.

This is \$4 billion for 2 years. This is not some outsized disaster assistance legislation; it is barebones. We recall that the bill that passed earlier was in the \$6 billion range, when I had earlier offered \$6.7 billion. We are down to \$4.5 billion, as we have taken out things the White House said they would object to. We took out the energy provisions, for a savings of \$1.8 billion. We stripped out some of the support for small businesses, for a savings of \$215 million. We did add steps to reduce the cost in response to complaints from the administration. We now have it stripped down to the barebones, \$4.5 billion for 2 years.

Mr. President, I thank very much those who have tried to work things out. I look forward to further discussions.

With that, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, in line with the agreement we had reached yesterday, I now ask unanimous consent that we proceed to the Agriculture appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator, I object.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I know this is not necessarily the position of the occupant of the chair. He is being asked to do that on behalf of the other side. I regret that very much because we had what was to me a very clear understanding yesterday. It was very clear. We were going to go to the Agriculture appropriations bill today. I was to be given the right to offer my amendment. All other Senators would have their rights respected with respect to that bill. That meant they could call for a supermajority vote. They could try to invoke rule XVI. We were prepared to deal with any of those contingencies.

I must say that this action leaves us with very little choice but to now object to proceeding to other matters. If good faith means something in this Chamber, that means commitments are kept. I regret very much that we find ourselves in this circumstance. The commitment made to me yesterday was very clear, both public and private. We were going to go to the Agriculture appropriations bill today. We were going to have a chance to vote. It is not exactly a novel idea here that we vote. People have a chance to win or lose. That is what I am asking for. That is what I was assured yesterday would happen today.

So, again, I ask unanimous consent to proceed to the Agriculture appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator, I object.

Mr. CONRAD. Objection is clearly heard. Again, I regret that very much.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota, Mr. DORGAN, is recognized.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, my colleague has sought unanimous consent to bring up the Agriculture appropriations bill. I recognize, and I know he recognizes, that we don't have the power of scheduling in the Senate. That is the basis of that request. Those who observe the process of legislating might wonder sometimes, if you are not doing anything, why are you not doing something?

Clearly we are not doing anything at the moment. We have no business pending. We are attempting to do a piece of legislation dealing with the agricultural disaster for family farmers who suffered weather-related disasters. That is on the basis of the discussion yesterday, where the leader of the Senate wanted to finish the Military Construction bill, and my colleague, Senator CONRAD, withdrew his amendment dealing with farm disaster help in order to allow that bill to be completed yesterday. So the assumption was, with the back-and-forth my colleague read from the RECORD, that we would have the opportunity today for my colleague to offer an amendment to the Agriculture appropriations bill because the assumption and intent was to bring up the Agriculture appropriations bill first thing today. That has not been the case.