

DANIEL INOUE was a member of the famed 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team of World War II, the most decorated Army unit in U.S. history. During one bloody battle, Platoon Leader INOUE led an assault on a heavily defended Nazi position. Although gravely wounded, he still managed to destroy three Nazi machine gun nests. Anyone who is not familiar with the details of this amazing display of heroism should make it a point to become so.

For his incredible heroism, DAN INOUE was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the Congressional Medal of Honor, making him one of only seven Senators to have achieved our Nation's highest military honor. Senator INOUE is the Senate's only Congressional Medal of Honor recipient from World War II.

In 1963, he became the first Japanese American to serve in the U.S. Senate, where he continues to represent his State and our country with great distinction and dedication. This man of incredible integrity has worked tirelessly in the Senate on behalf of his constituents and our country. Senator INOUE served on the Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities—Watergate Committee—the Select Committee on Secret Military Assistance to Iran, and the Nicaraguan Opposition, Iran-Contra. He is the next in line on the Democratic side to chair the Senate Appropriations Committee and is currently the chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense. He also served as Secretary of the Democratic Conference from 1977 to 1989. I have always respected DANNY's deep loyalty to the Senate. I will always appreciate his loyalty to me when I was the Senate Democratic leader and I relied on his sage advice.

Senator INOUE is now the fourth longest serving U.S. Senator in history.

With today's vote, he is now the fourth U.S. Senator in history to have cast 15,000 votes.

Mr. President, I again congratulate my good friend, my outstanding colleague, and my "No. 1 hero" for another important milestone in his outstanding life:

God, give us men!

A time like this demands strong minds,
Great hearts, true faith, and ready hands.
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will not lie.
Men who can stand before the demagogue
And brave his treacherous flatteries without
winking.

Tall men, sun-crowned;
Who live above the fog,
In public duty and in private thinking.
For while the rabble with its thumbworn
creeds,

Its large professions and its little deeds,
Mingles in selfish strife,
Lo! Freedom weeps!
Wrong rules the land and waiting justice
sleeps.

God give us men!

Men who serve not for selfish booty;
But real men, courageous, who flinch not at
duty.

Men of dependable character;
Men of sterling worth;
Then wrongs will be redressed, and right will
rule the earth.
God Give us Men!

REMEMBERING RICHARD DARMAN

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I was sad to learn that Richard Darman passed away last week. Mr. Darman was a good man, an outstanding public servant, and a great American. I liked him very much. Dick Darman was a graduate of Harvard and Harvard Business School whose career in Washington spanned two and a half decades. He served in five Presidential administrations and worked in six Cabinet departments and the White House.

Mr. Darman was a player in many of the important events of the last quarter of the 20th Century. While serving in the Justice Department, he helped arrange the plea bargain that eased Vice President Spiro T. Agnew out of office. Along with his boss, Attorney General Elliot Richardson, he was a victim of the infamous Saturday Night Massacre of the Watergate era. He served in the Reagan administration, eventually rising to the position of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, where he helped formulate the economic policies of the Reagan revolution and helped negotiate the 1986 Tax Reform Act. And he served as Director of the Office of Management and Budget in the administration of the first President Bush.

It was during the 1990 budget summit that I really came to know and respect Mr. Darman. I quickly learned that Budget Director Darman was a pragmatist and a realist, who was opposed to budget gimmicks and simple and easy solutions to our Nation's fiscal woes. Concerned about a decade of devastating budget deficits he called for serious, realistic steps to get our Nation's budget under control. And he was not opposed to working with Democrats in seeking those solutions. As a result, we were able to craft the landmark 1990 deficit-reduction plan—a deal between a Republican-controlled White House and a Democratic Congress that marked a high point of bipartisan cooperation. This budget agreement helped reverse a decade of budget deficits and gave the economy a boost that lasted for more than a decade. Along with President Clinton's 1993 budget agreement, it helped lay the groundwork for the fiscal balance and economic growth of the 1990s.

This incredibly successful budget agreement, unfortunately, destroyed Mr. Darman's career in government. This man of deep integrity and incredible intelligence was eventually forced out of Government because too many people in his own political party had ideological differences with the contents of the 1990 budget agreement.

Mr. President, I extend my most heartfelt condolences to his wife Kath-

leen and his three sons and all of his family and friends. I am so pleased and proud to consider myself as one of the latter.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, with the enactment of bipartisan Freedom of Information Act, FOIA, reform legislation late last year, Congress demanded and won more openness and accountability in monitoring the activities of our Government. But, regrettably, just weeks after this historic open government legislation was signed into law, there are troubling signs from the Bush administration regarding how this law will be enforced.

Last week, the President buried a provision in the administration's fiscal year 2009 budget proposal that would move the functions of the new Office of Government Information Services, OGIS, which was created under the OPEN Government Act, from the independent National Archives and Records Administration to the Department of Justice. The President's proposal is not only contrary to the express intent of the Congress, but contrary to the very purpose of this legislation—to ensure the timely and fair resolution of American's FOIA requests.

The Office of Government Information Services was established to, among other things, mediate FOIA disputes between Federal agencies and FOIA requestors, review and evaluate agency FOIA compliance and house the newly established FOIA ombudsman. When Senator CORNYN and I drafted the OPEN Government Act, we intentionally placed this critical office in the National Archives, so that OGIS would be free from the influence of the Federal agency that litigates FOIA disputes—the Department of Justice. We also placed OGIS in the apolitical National Archives to enhance this office's independence, so that all Americans can be confident that their FOIA requests would be addressed openly and fairly.

Given the clear intent of Congress to establish OGIS as an independent office in the National Archives, the President's budget proposal should not—and cannot—go unchallenged. What's more, given the Justice Department's own abysmal record on FOIA compliance—a recent Bureau of National Affairs Daily Report for Executives article found that the Justice Department's Office of Information Policy is burdened by increasing FOIA backlogs—it is simply unfathomable that this agency would be entrusted with overseeing the processing of American's FOIA requests.

When the Congress unanimously passed the OPEN Government Act just a couple months ago, Democrats and Republicans alike joined together in promising the American people a more open and transparent government. I intend to work to ensure that that this was not an empty promise, but one that will be honored and fulfilled.