

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THEODORE ROOSEVELT DAM

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, the story of human settlement in Arizona is in many respects the story of the extraordinary efforts people have made to harness water supplies for their use and benefit. Early Arizonans were keenly aware of the importance of the State's many rivers. Recognizing the immense power and unpredictability of those river flows, settlers devised an ambitious water system known as the Salt River Project, SRP. The keystone of their efforts, the Theodore Roosevelt Dam, celebrates its centennial this month.

More than a century ago, Arizonans understood that water reclamation is crucial to life in the Salt River Valley. Arizona farmers organized to lobby the U.S. Congress for a Federal reclamation law that would throw the weight of the Federal Government behind local projects. Together with the vision of President Theodore Roosevelt and the persuasive power of private citizens, Congress passed the National Reclamation Act in 1902. The Salt River Valley Water Users' Association was incorporated the following year.

SRP was the first major undertaking authorized by the National Reclamation Act, and Roosevelt Dam was a critical component of SRP's development. Upon its completion on March 18, 1911, the Roosevelt Dam was the largest masonry structure in the world. The dam captured the Salt River's flows, providing a secure water supply, flood control, and irrigation to communities in central Arizona. In addition to water management, the Roosevelt Dam generated power for mining, agriculture, and Arizona's growing population.

Today, economic growth in the region continues to depend on Roosevelt Dam and its ability to provide a reliable water storage and delivery system, as well as power. The dam is still in operation and provides 70 percent of the surface water available to SRP water shareholders and customers in and around Phoenix. While SRP's mission has evolved with Arizona's population growth, its core function has remained constant to provide a sustainable water resource for central Arizona.

As Arizona continues to develop, we will need the same foresight and entrepreneurial spirit to serve the water needs of a new generation of Arizonans. Mr. President, that is why today I honor those who made SRP and the Roosevelt Dam a reality 100 years ago.

THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I voted in favor of the continuing resolution to keep our government and all its essential services open and operating for the next 2 weeks. I cast this vote because I believe a government shutdown is in no one's interests, but I am deeply dis-

appointed in the political process that has put us in this position and my patience is nearly exhausted with yet another short-term solution and band-aid approach. A 2-week extension that merely defers tough decisions on funding the fiscal year that started more than 5 months ago is hardly progress. A 2-week extension is preferable to a government shutdown, but it does not provide the certainty that is needed. The American people deserve better than a stalled process which delays important decisions of how we can reduce our Federal budget deficit while maintaining our important investments in infrastructure, research, education, technology, and clean energy which will result in new jobs and will bolster our long-term competitiveness.

The American people deserve a serious dialogue and adult conversation within the Congress about our fiscal situation, discretionary spending, entitlements, and revenues. We need to work towards a long-term solution to reduce both our current budget deficit and our staggering debt. We will need to reduce Federal spending and make appropriate changes to our entitlement programs to meet the fiscal challenges facing our country. To do this appropriately, everything—revenue, tax reform, spending and entitlements—needs to be on the table.

As we make these difficult decisions, we must keep in mind that this cannot be done by just eliminating programs which protect vulnerable citizens or simply by increasing taxes on our wealthiest citizens. Instead, we must find a way to share the sacrifices necessary to bring our budget into balance over the long-term while continuing to invest in scientific and medical research, education, infrastructure and energy that will help create new industries and jobs in the future.

I want to be crystal clear about what is wrong with today's dialogue. For the last months we have heard the sound bites. We have heard elected officials say they are for small government, lower taxes, and more freedom. But what do they really mean?

Do they want a government too limited to have invented the Internet, now a vital part of our commerce and communications? A government too small to give America's auto industry and all its workers a second chance to fight for their survival? Taxes too low to invest in the research that creates jobs and industries and fills the Treasury with the revenue that educates our children, cures disease, and defends our country? We have to get past slogans and sound bites, reason together, and talk in real terms about how America can do its best.

If we are going to balance the budget and create jobs, we can't pretend that we can do it by just eliminating earmarks and government waste. We have to look at the plain facts of how we did it before, and by the way, you don't have to look far. In the early 1990s, our economy was faltering because deficits

and debt were freezing capital. We had to send a signal to the market that we were capable of being fiscally responsible. We did just that and as a result we saw the longest economic expansion in history, created over 22 million jobs, and generated unprecedented wealth in America, with every income bracket rising. But we did it by making tough choices. The Clinton economic plan committed the country to a path of discipline that helped unleash the productive potential of the American people. We invested in the workforce, in research, in development. We helped new industries. Then, working with Republicans, we came up with a budget framework that put our nation on track to be debt free by 2012 for the first time since Andrew Jackson's administration.

How we got off track is a story that doesn't require retelling. But the truth of how we generated the 1990s economic boom does need to be told. We didn't just cut our way to a balanced budget; we grew our way there. The question now is, What are the tough decisions we are going to make today? What are the issues we are going to wrestle with together at a moment of enormous challenge?

This process cannot be done in two weeks, but it should have already begun—and it needs to begin today. The American people deserve no less.

THANKING THE PEOPLE OF
AUSTRALIA

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, on the morning of March 7, the Prime Minister of Australia, Julia Gillard, will take the stage in front of the Lincoln Memorial to announce a \$3 million donation on behalf of the Australian Government to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to help build the Education Center at the Vietnam Wall. This generous contribution is a testament to the strength of the United States' relationship with the Australian people and is critical to our continuing efforts to honor the men and women who served in Vietnam.

As one who strongly supported legislation to establish the Education Center, I want to recognize and commend the Prime Minister, the legislature and the Australian people for their deep commitment to helping it come to fruition. Australian soldiers made terrible sacrifices during the Vietnam war. More than 500 Australian servicemen lost their lives, and some 3,000 were wounded, injured, or struck ill.

For years, Australia has been a steadfast ally and friend of the United States. Besides Vietnam, Australian soldiers fought alongside Americans during many of our struggles in the 20th century, including World War I, World War II, the Korean war, and more recently in Iraq. Currently, over 1500 Australian troops are fighting alongside our Armed Forces in Afghanistan, working to train Afghan troops.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial bears the names of the more than 58,000