

Ohio and for our country. He had a very difficult job.

I know the Presiding Officer served under JOHN BOEHNER and so he knows what a tough job he had. He had this faction, that faction, another faction, and a couple more. But ousting a man like JOHN BOEHNER—a good man like JOHN BOEHNER. JOHN BOEHNER is a conservative Republican, but his problem is that JOHN BOEHNER has been pragmatic. He has realized there comes a time when you have to make a deal.

I say to the Presiding Officer and everyone within the sound of my voice, although I didn't know General Eisenhower, President Eisenhower—never met him, never saw him—but I was here when Ronald Reagan was President and he had conservative credentials. Ronald Reagan was somebody who understood the art of compromise. Who else could have worked out something with the Soviet Union? I am not sure there is anybody, but Ronald Reagan was able to do that.

I am so concerned. I am seeing the Republican Party—not the party of Dwight Eisenhower, as I have studied him, or the man Ronald Reagan as I knew him. I just think it is very, very sad the Tea Party Caucus the Republican leaders have embraced to win in 2010, I guess, now have taken over control of the party.

To say I will miss JOHN BOEHNER is a tremendous understatement. I looked out for him in ways I could, and he looked out for me in the ways he could. I will always consider JOHN BOEHNER my friend, and I look forward to working with him until he leaves. I understand it is going to be in late October, but I will continue to work with him, as I have in the past, to do what I think is the right thing for the country, as I am confident he will. Hopefully, we will continue someplace in the middle to get things done. I have gotten things done with JOHN BOEHNER that I wasn't happy with, and he wasn't happy with what we had to come up with, but sometimes you do the best you can.

I wish JOHN BOEHNER the very best in the future. Whatever I can do to make his life more pleasant, I will be happy to do that. Whether it is setting up a golf game for him in Las Vegas or helping in some government matter, I will do whatever I can because JOHN BOEHNER, as far as I am concerned, is a good man, and it is a gross underestimate to say I will miss him. I will.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be

in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

UNITED STATES-CHINA RELATIONS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I rise this afternoon to say a few words about a critical challenge and opportunity facing the United States. For months many of us have been on the floor debating some of the important foreign policy and national security issues that our Nation faces—whether it is Islamic terrorism, ISIS, the President's flawed and dangerous Iran agreement or a resurgent Russia in Europe and the Arctic. The list of these issues is long, and it is growing. But one issue that has not really gotten much attention—I believe the attention that it deserves—and that I would like to speak about this afternoon is the long-term national security and foreign policy consequences of the rise of China.

China's President Xi Jinping is in town right now. He is visiting America. He is going to meet with President Obama on a state visit, and some of us in Congress will have an opportunity to meet with him later today. It is an opportunity to start seriously thinking about the challenges and opportunities that a rising China presents to the world and to the United States.

Perhaps we are not talking about this issue as much as we should on the floor because it doesn't seem to be an immediate issue. It is a bit of a longer term matter. But it is also something that in historical terms is happening so fast. I will give one statistic.

In 1980 China's economy was smaller than that of the Netherlands. Last year, just the incremental growth of China's economy was as large as the Netherlands' economy. They have had incredible growth. But some of our country's most deep and strategic thinkers and historians agree that the rise of China is—over the next decade or two—the paramount issue for us to focus on in the United States.

As far back as 2005, 10 years ago almost to the day, then-Deputy Secretary of State Bob Zellick, who went on to be the president of the World Bank and a former U.S. Trade Representative for the United States, a very strategic thinker, gave what was called the “responsible stakeholders” speech, a very well-renowned speech that people are still reading on U.S.-China relations.

In that speech 10 years ago, he said: “How the United States deals with China's rising power is a central question in American foreign policy.”

Just a few months ago in testimony before the Armed Services Committee, Harvard Professor Graham Allison gave testimony that in many ways is reflected in an article he just published in the Atlantic yesterday on the eve of the visit of the President of China. He states in that article and in his testimony from a couple of months ago:

The preeminent geostrategic challenge of this era is not violent Islamic extremists, or

a resurgent Russia. It is the impact that China's ascendance will have on the U.S.-led national order.

More specifically, Professor Allison writes that “the defining question about global order for this generation is whether China and the United States can escape”—what he refers to as “the Thucydides trap.”

He is referencing the renowned ancient Greek historian.

Professor Allison coined this term to describe the strategic dilemma and dangers that occur when a rising power rivals a ruling power, as when—an example he gives in ancient Greece—Athens challenged Sparta in ancient Greece which ultimately led to the Peloponnesian War.

Professor Allison has caught the attention of many, including President Xi Jinping of China, who in a speech just a few days ago in Seattle actually referenced this term—the “Thucydides trap”—when talking about U.S.-China relations. Now, both Professor Allison and President Xi, in his speech, make it clear that conflict between the United States and China is certainly not inevitable, regardless of what he says with regard to the Thucydides trap, and I certainly would agree with that. Professor Allison, however, does appear to draw some very sobering conclusions in his recent article that should make all of us take serious pause. He concludes in his article written yesterday: “War between the U.S. and China is more likely than recognized at the moment.” These are his words, not mine. This is one of the most distinguished professors of international relations in the United States.

I think these words underscore the need for those of us in the Senate to give due attention to the importance of the U.S.-China relationship and the attendant risks of Graham Allison's Thucydides trap.

Fortunately, I believe we are well-positioned as an institution in the Senate to do this. In the Federalist Papers, Madison talks about one of the roles of the U.S. Senate with its Members having 6-year terms to be able to ensure lasting relations between the United States and other nations through the institution of the Senate. Perhaps more than any other part of the Federal Government, this institution has the opportunity to think strategically and act for the long-term interests of our country.

Fortunately, we also have many experts, historians, professors, and practitioners, whether it is people such as Bob Zoellick or Graham Allison or Henry Kissinger or a new generation of scholars, such as Mike Green at CSIS, who have been thinking about these issues—the Asia-Pacific, the rise in China—for decades. Their articles, books, and speeches are critical to devising national strategies to advance America's interests in the region.

This is a long-term endeavor for all of us. It is imperative that it remains on our radar screens through the

course of State visits, through the course of elections, through the course of changing administrations. Contrary to what some say, we as a country do have the capacity to think and act in our long-term strategic interests as a government.

Our successful bipartisan strategy dealing with the Soviet Union, started by Kennan's famous "X" telegram, which created the strategy of containment over the course of decades, over the course of several administrations and several different Congresses—it was a successful long-term strategy for the United States.

From my perspective, as we look at this issue—the Asia-Pacific—its importance—the rise of China—I think a few key touchstones are important to remember. First, America is an Asia-Pacific power. My State of Alaska is an Asia-Pacific State. The United States has strong networks of alliances throughout the Asia-Pacific, and our country has built the post-World War II architecture that has enabled this dynamic region of the world to thrive in terms of peace and in terms of prosperity. In fact, when we look at the last 70 years of history in that region, we have been the linchpin of that peace and prosperity for all countries in the region, whether our strongest allies such as Japan and Korea and Australia or other countries—countries even like China—and we have earned the trust of our allies for our commitment. So we need to maintain that trust as we move forward and we need to listen to our allies in the region.

Second, we need to understand the history of the region and our involvement there better as we think through what the strategy is moving forward. I have had the opportunity to go to the National Archives a number of times already since I joined the Senate, and there is a statue outside the National Archives and it has a command on it. It says simply: "Study the past." Study the past. Again, I think that as we are looking at our strategy in that region, it is critical that we need to be doing that. Professor Allison's article, as well as books, is a good start, and I think all of us need to continue that focus.

Third, no matter what strategy we end up using vis-a-vis China and the Asia-Pacific region, we have to be strong again at home. My biggest surprise as a new freshman Senator—my biggest surprise in this body is how little we, or certainly for that matter the Obama administration, talk about our economy, talk about the strength or the lack thereof of our economy. Perhaps because the performance of our economy has been so lackluster, we have even doubled down expectations.

They have this term now in Washington called "the new normal." American growth rates have typically been at 3, 3.5, 4 percent GDP growth throughout most of our history. Over the last 6 years, we can barely break 2 percent GDP growth; 1.5, 2 percent.

Two quarters ago, we went back into recession. They are now calling this the new normal and we need to accept this. We rarely hear the President or even the Treasury Secretary come out to the American people and say: No, we have to grow traditional levels of American growth—3.5, 5 percent, 4 percent GDP growth. The Presiding Officer knows this. He has focused on this issue. We are not doing that. We have to get back to strength at home because a continued weak U.S. economy—the new normal—growing at 1.5 percent for the next 5, 10 years will create all kinds of additional challenges for us and in my view will make the Thucydides trap that Professor Allison talks about more likely for the United States and China.

Yes, China has certain advantages, but in so many areas—in so many areas—the United States holds all the cards—in so many different areas. If we were in a global poker match and we were all at the table—all the big countries—we would look at our hand and we would see aces. Let me just name a few.

The high-tech sector, still the envy of the world; not just Silicon Valley, all over America.

Our agriculture sector. We feed the world.

Universities. We have the best universities in the world, by far—by far. Certain States in America have better top universities than all of China.

Finance and commercial aspects of our economy, the best entrepreneurs.

Energy. We have a renaissance in energy where we are now the largest producer of oil and gas in the world and the largest producer of renewables. This is a huge advantage. It is creating a rebirth of manufacturing in America.

Fisheries. We harvest some of the most amazing seafood, more than almost any other country in the world.

Foreign relations. We look at our allies in Asia, they are coming to the United States in terms of wanting to deepen their relationship with us.

And, of course, the U.S. military, the finest in the world right now. It is right now. I had the opportunity to go down to the World War II Memorial this morning and I saw a couple of Honor Flights coming in, seeing those veterans of ours who fought and defended this great Nation in World War II. We have had the best military for decades, and we are going to continue to do that.

The key is we have to unleash our economic might once again, which has been so dormant during the Obama administration. We have to do this. If we do this, we can view the rise of China from a standpoint of strength, confidence, and opportunity, not trepidation.

As Bob Zoellick mentioned 10 years ago in his "Responsible Stakeholders" speech: "You hear voices that perceive China solely through the lens of fear, but America succeeds when we look to the future as an opportunity, not when we fear what the future might bring."

I have had the opportunity to view the U.S.-China relationship from a variety of lenses, including economic, diplomatic, and even to some degree military. I previously served as the commissioner of natural resources and energy in Alaska and was able to take a trip over there with some Alaskans to look at ways to deepen our economic, trade, and energy relationship between my State and China and have them visit Alaska and participate in those meetings. I served in terms of diplomacy as an assistant secretary of state and have had numerous opportunities to travel to China with some of our top U.S. Government leaders—at the time Bob Zoellick, Secretary of the Treasury Paulson, and Secretary of State Rice—to discuss ways in which to deepen economic relationships and work on the U.S.-China relationship.

Even many years ago as a U.S. marine aboard an amphibious assault ship in the East and South China Sea during the third Taiwan Strait crisis, I was a very, very, very small player in an episode that once again demonstrated American resolve and commitment in the region.

There is a long tradition from Alaska Senators in keeping a focus on the importance of the Asia-Pacific, from both the Alaska and the U.S. perspective.

Former Senator Ted Stevens served in World War II as a Flying Tiger, flying the Hump in that part of the world, and his subsequent focus throughout his career was very much on the Asia-Pacific, as was Frank Murkowski's expertise and experience, particularly with regard to our relationship with Taiwan.

The focus on the Asia-Pacific and the rise of China is certainly one that in many ways we can view as an opportunity, certainly in my State. Last year, China became the No. 1 export market for Alaskan goods: \$1.4 billion of goods exported from Alaska to China—an 18-percent increase. So I believe maintaining this focus—and we have this visit today with the President of China—is critically important not only to my State, not only to our country but also to our allies in the region.

We should all try to put more focus and our best thinking on these critical foreign policy and national security issues which, although they are not always on the front page of the papers, I believe are some of the most important long-term strategic challenges and opportunities we face in this country.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PERDUE). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JENNY DAVIS

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I wish to recognize and pay tribute to COL Jenny W. Davis, legislative assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, for her service to our country. Her retirement later this year marks more than 26 years of devotion to our military and our Nation.

A Maryland native, COL Davis was commissioned into the Adjutant General's Corps in May 1989 upon graduation from the United States Military Academy, West Point, NY, and served her initial 4 years in the Army as a branch detailed officer in the Air Defense Artillery. Her military education includes the Air Defense Artillery Officer Basic Course and Adjutant General Officer Advanced Course and the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College.

COL Davis has held assignments ranging from platoon leader, battery executive officer, and battalion adjutant, 6th Battalion, 43d Air Defense Artillery, 32d AADCOR, and V Corps, Ansbach, Germany; detachment commander, B Detachment, 546th Personnel Services Battalion, 3d Personnel Group, and chief of officer management, 2d Armored Division, Fort Hood, TX; HHC commander, 8th Personnel Command, 8th U.S. Army, Camp Coiner, Korea; joint staff intern serving in the offices of the J1 and the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, the Pentagon; company grade assignment officer, chief of officer management division and chief of personnel management division, I Corps, and battalion executive officer, 22d Personnel Services Battalion, 1st Personnel Group, Fort Lewis, WA; strategic planner, Army G-1, Headquarters Department of the Army, HQDA, the Pentagon; DoD Congressional Fellow, office of Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, Washington, DC; legislative liaison—Personnel Policy Portfolio, Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison, OCLL, the Pentagon; Strategic Initiatives Group, I Corps/U.S. Forces—Iraq, OIF; legislative liaison—Arlington National Cemetery, OCLL.

COL Davis's awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, with four oakleaf clusters; Joint Service Commendation Medal, with one oakleaf cluster; Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal, with two oakleaf clusters; Parachutist Badge; and Joint Chiefs of Staff and Army Staff Identification Badges.

Jenny is married to Grant Davis. They have two sons, Zach, 16, and Ben, 14.●

RECOGNIZING THE JUDGE PORTER HOUSE BED AND BREAKFAST

• Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, Louisianians are committed to preserving the traditions that make us profoundly

unique as a State and as a nation. This is especially true in the Louisiana Purchase's oldest city Natchitoches, LA, home to Small Business of the Week, the Judge Porter House Bed and Breakfast.

Nestled in the Cane River National Heritage Area, the Judge Porter House Bed and Breakfast offers a unique experience to its guests. Built in 1912, the establishment originally served as the home of "Judge" Thomas Fitzgerald Porter and his wife, Wilhelmina. While not an actual judge, Judge Porter was a prominent figure who worked at the parish courthouse, and during the course of his life, he enjoyed the honorary title. Over the next few decades, the home was sold to various families who contributed to the effort of restoring the property to its original state. By 1987, while in the care of Mark Rachal and his wife, Sharon, they remodeled the interior and revamped the landscaping for the home's grand reopening in 1996 as a part of the Natchitoches Historic Foundation's Annual Fall Pilgrimage.

Today, under the management and care of Charles LaCaze, Jr., the 3,000-square-foot property incorporates many turn-of-the-century architectural elements throughout its five guest rooms, two parlors, and the Queen Anne-style gallery that wraps around the house. Each year, the Judge Porter House Bed and Breakfast hosts guests from around the Nation. Located in downtown Natchitoches, LA, visitors can walk to various local restaurants and shops, as well as visit nearby national parks and fish hatcheries after enjoying a traditional southern-style breakfast.

Congratulations to Judge Porter Bed and Breakfast for being selected as Small Business of the Week. Thank you for your commitment to the preservation of Louisiana's rich history.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:06 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 261. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 200 NW 4th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the William J. Holloway, Jr. United States Courthouse.

S. 994. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Walter Hammond Place in Waldwick, New Jersey, as the "Staff Sergeant Joseph D'Augustine Post Office Building".

S. 1707. An act to designate the Federal building located at 617 Walnut Street in Helena, Arkansas, as the "Jacob Trieber Federal Building, United States Post Office, and United States Court House".

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 322. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16105 Swingley Ridge Road in Chesterfield,

Missouri, as the "Sgt. Zachary M. Fisher Post Office".

H.R. 323. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 55 Grasso Plaza in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Sgt. Amanda N. Pinson Post Office".

H.R. 324. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11662 Gravois Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Post Office".

H.R. 558. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 55 South Pioneer Boulevard in Springboro, Ohio, as the "Richard 'Dick' Chenault Post Office Building".

H.R. 1442. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 Cornell Street in Kingston, New York, as the "Staff Sergeant Robert H. Dietz Post Office Building".

H.R. 1884. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 206 West Commercial Street in East Rochester, New York, as the "Officer Daryl R. Pierson Memorial Post Office Building".

H.R. 3059. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4500 SE 28th Street, Del City, Oklahoma, as the James Robert Kalsu Post Office Building.

H.R. 3116. An act to extend by 15 years the authority of the Secretary of Commerce to conduct the quarterly financial report program.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 322. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16105 Swingley Ridge Road in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the "Sgt. Zachary M. Fisher Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 323. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 55 Grasso Plaza in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Sgt. Amanda N. Pinson Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 324. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11662 Gravois Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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H.R. 1884. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 206 West Commercial Street in East Rochester, New York, as the "Officer Daryl R. Pierson Memorial Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3059. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4500 SE 28th Street, Del City, Oklahoma, as the James Robert Kalsu Post Office Building; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3116. An act to extend by 15 years the authority of the Secretary of Commerce to