

I placed a hold on them and had notified them on that day, last Friday. I had a meeting with them on Monday and I have written today releasing the hold.

The hold was placed on them on a matter that is ongoing. That is because, when we had the Budget Appropriation hearings on the National Institutes of Health, Senator HARKIN and I had written—I was chairman at the time—to the Institutes asking questions about stem cell research. The replies we got were censored, and we finally laboriously got the originals and found that information very favorable to stem cell research had been deleted. I asked Secretary Thompson about that and got an unsatisfactory answer, which I need not go into in any detail about here. And then NIH had submitted a 200-page report to the Department of Health and Human Services, and that report on the report was published in the New York Times in mid-June.

Senator HARKIN and I could not get it until less than 24 hours after we had a hearing on stem cells on that report 2 weeks ago. I talked to the inspector general nominee, Janet Rehnquist, about assurances that if she were confirmed that she would, as inspector general of HHS, conduct a thorough inquiry into why those reports were censored.

I received a letter in reply, and I need not go into detail now, and it is really not determinative for consideration because I am advised by the chairman of the Finance Committee they will not be reported out before recess with respect to Mr. Azar. I asked him about his standards as general counsel to render an opinion on stem cell research, which would be an objective opinion. The general counsel, under the previous administration, had rendered an opinion that the Federal statute barred extracting stem cells from the embryos, but did not ban research once they had been extracted.

The President has taken a contrary position, and funding has been held up. I wanted assurances from Mr. Azar that his determination would be an objective determination. He has written to me. It is not ripe for a final determination, but I wanted to comment because of the importance of the subject and state publicly that the holds have been withdrawn as far as this Senator is concerned.

I thank the Chair especially for her diligence in presiding.

I yield the floor.

#### LOUIS ARMSTRONG DAY

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I wish to thank my colleagues, Senators SCHUMER, BREAUX, LANDRIEU, and LIEBERMAN for co-sponsoring my resolution designating this Saturday, the centennial of a great American leg-

end's birthday, "Louis Armstrong Day."

Thanks to the wonders of technology, we can all continue to appreciate the genius of Louis Armstrong's music. It is music that uplifts the spirit, and that has inspired countless musicians and fans for nearly a century. There are millions of people around the world who love Louis Armstrong's music. And, thanks to the wonders of technology, there are millions more who have never heard his music who someday will, and their lives will be uplifted. From the perspective of this Louis Armstrong fan, they've all got something to look forward to.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COUNTERDRUG SUPPORT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I rise to express my deep concern about the apparent lack of emphasis by the Department of Defense on the counterdrug mission. This has been a year of continual discussion of increased DoD funding for various military missions. However, all the indications I am hearing point to a decreased DoD interest in this mission, as well as decreased funding levels. I believe this would be a poor policy decision, and a poor indication of the nation's priorities.

In May 2001 testimony, before the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, on which I served as Chairman, the heads of the Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Customs Service, and the U.S. Coast Guard all testified that DoD reductions would be detrimental to their agencies' counterdrug efforts. The Office of National Drug Control Policy summarized that (quote) DoD's command and control system provides the communications connectivity and information system backbone . . . while the military services detection and monitoring assets provide a much need intelligence cueing capability (end quote).

The Commandant of the Coast Guard testified at length about DoD counterdrug support, stating (quote) [w]e would go downhill very quickly (end quote) without DoD contributions. The Commandant also stated that 43 percent of Coast Guard seizures last year were from U.S. Navy vessels, using onboard Coast Guard law enforcement detachments. The Coast Guard concluded that (quote) [s]hould there be any radical reduction of the assets provided through the Department of Defense . . . it would peril the potential for all the other agencies to make their contributions as productive . . . mainly because of the synergy that is generated by the enormous capability that the 800-pound gorilla brings to the table . . . They are very, very good at what they do. They are the best in the world . . . and when they share those capabilities . . . in

terms of intelligence fusion and command and control, we do much better than we would ever otherwise have a chance to do (end quote). I understand that an internal review of DoD's drug role contemplated severe reductions as a working assumption. After years of decline in DoD's role in this area, I believe this sends the wrong signal and flies in the face of DoD's statutory authority.

I have consistently supported an integrated national counterdrug strategy. If we reduce the DoD role, we risk lessening the effectiveness of other agencies as well. We need to make these decisions carefully, and with full Congressional involvement. I urge the Department of Defense to keep in mind DoD's important role in, and necessary contribution to, a serious national drug control strategy.

#### AMERICAN INDIAN ENERGY AND NATIONAL ENERGY SECURITY

Mr. CAMPBELL. Madam President, as Congress begins the August recess and Americans get in their cars, vans and trucks to take their deserved vacations, we should keep in mind that the U.S. dependency on foreign sources of energy is at an all-time high of more than 60 percent.

Both the House and Senate are considering various parts of what will become our national energy plan, but to date little attention has been paid to energy development and conservation on American Indian reservations.

Indian lands comprise about 5 percent of the total landmass of our Nation and if consolidated, would be about the size of the State of Minnesota. In the last century, Indians were relegated to small remnants of their aboriginal lands, in areas most considered ill suited to agriculture or any other form of activity.

On and under these Indian-owned lands are huge reserves of oil, natural gas, coal bed methane, uranium, and alternative sources of energy such as wind and hydropower. There are many tribes that want to develop these energy resources and are looking to Congress for assistance to do just that.

We are not just talking about drilling in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, ANWR. Indian resources span from the coal fields of Montana to the natural gas patch in Colorado and beyond.

The tribes are not only interested in research and development, and financial and tax incentives, though they are needed, but are looking for changes and reforms to existing regulations that have kept energy and other projects from Indian lands.

Developing Indian energy is not only in the interest of the tribes and their members, but is largely consistent with the Bush administration's emphasis on production, conservation, and ensuring long-term supply is guaranteed.

It is Congress' obligation to ensure the Nation's supply of energy is secure and also to assist Indian tribal development and job creation in the process. To this end I am working to help ensure that tribes are brought into the fold when Congress gets serious about energy policy this fall.

I ask unanimous consent that copies of various recent news articles be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Wall Street Journal, June 29, 2001]

FALLING ENERGY PRICES COULD SPARK THE ECONOMY

(By Greg Ip)

WASHINGTON.—Energy prices, which helped drive the economy to the brink of recession, are declining and could be crucial to reviving growth.

Rising production, moderate weather and weakening demand have helped reduce prices of natural gas, gasoline and Western wholesale electricity to below year-ago levels and return inventories to a comfortable range. If sustained, the drop in prices, combined with a tax cut and lower interest rates, helps increase the likelihood of an economic recovery in coming months.

But here is the catch: Prices have dropped in part because slowing economies in the U.S. and abroad have lessened demand. A sharp rebound in growth could tighten supplies and cause prices to rise.

"It looks that the worse of the energy stocks may be behind us, in part because of growing supply and, even more important, the effects of the economic downturn are really starting to show up on the demand side," said Tom Robinson, senior director at Cambridge Energy Research Associates. "The market looks much better supplied heading into the summer and next winter than most people would have thought six months ago."

Higher energy prices, by some estimates, reduced economic growth about a percentage point in the past year by sapping consumer incomes. Spending isn't likely to fully rebound because the prices haven't returned to previous levels and because retail electric bills have yet to fully reflect the jump in wholesale costs earlier this year.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan yesterday blamed rising energy costs for hurting profit margins and investment as they drove up business costs between the spring of 2000 and last winter, little of which was passed on in higher prices.

The subsequent decline suggests "some easing in pressures on profit margins from energy this quarter," he told the Economic Club of Chicago. While the Fed couldn't be certain the spike in gasoline prices "is behind us . . . it is encouraging that in market economies well-publicized forecasts of crises, such as earlier concerns about gasoline price surges this summer, more often than not fail to develop."

Crude-oil prices have slipped to about \$25 a barrel from an average of \$28.63 in May and more than \$30 a year ago. But drops in other energy prices have been more striking. Consider:

Spot natural-gas prices, which rose from \$4.40 per million British thermal units a year ago to above \$10 in the winter, have since slipped to about \$3.25. Mr. Robinson estimates robust drilling activity has lifted North American production as much as 3%

from a year ago, while demand has fallen as some power plants substituted cheaper fuels for gas. Combined that has dramatically boosted gas in storage from far below seasonal norms to well above.

Regular gasoline average \$1.54 a gallon across the country Monday, down from \$1.71 in the late May and 12 cents below year ago levels, according to the Energy Department. Larry Goldstein, president of P \* \* \* Energy Group, an industry research organization, said that consumption instead of rising the expected 1% to 1.5% this summer is now expected to fall 2%. Gasoline inventories, bolstered by surging imports are near a five-year high.

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[From the Reno Gazette Journal, July 31, 2001]

TEAMSTERS BACK OIL EXPLORATION IN ALASKA WILDERNESS

WASHINGTON.—The Teamsters will start airing radio ads this week in favor of drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. The campaign aligns the union with the Bush administration and sets it apart from much of organized labor.

The 60-second spots will air on radio stations in Pennsylvania and West Virginia this week as the House prepares to vote on the issue and other energy proposals.

The ads will cost at least \$20,000, said Teamsters spokesman Rob Black.

Pennsylvania and West Virginia were selected because of the impact energy exploration could have on their economies, union officials said. More than 200 businesses in those states are involved in Alaskan petroleum exploration.

The ads say that opening the refuge could mean 75,000 new jobs—"Good jobs, union jobs"—with 40,000 of those in Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Environmentalists get slammed for being "so intolerant and excessive" while jobs are being lost and families are hurting.

"Part of the problem? Not understanding that protecting the environment and developing new sources of energy go hand in hand," the ads say. Listeners are urged to call their representatives.

Vice President Dick Cheney met with the Teamsters and some of the more conservative construction and steel unions earlier this summer, when the Bush administration was trying to build support for its energy plan by touting job creation.

The Teamsters union, which supported former Vice President Al Gore in last year's election but sometimes tilts Republican, has been a thorn in the Bush administration's side on another issue—whether to open the border to Mexican trucks.

The union has been lobbying against President Bush's plan to allow the trucks on America's roads on Jan. 1, in keeping with the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The Senate is nearing a vote on the issue, and Democratic leaders predict passage of tougher safety standards for Mexican trucks.

Bush prefers giving the trucks access to U.S. roads and then auditing Mexican trucking companies during the next 18 months.

The Teamsters union has been airing \$50,000 worth of radio ads, opposing Bush's plan, in the Washington area.

NATION OF IMMIGRANTS

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, each year the American Immigration

Law Foundation and the American Immigration Lawyers Association sponsor a national writing contest on immigration. Thousands of fifth grade students across the country participate in the competition, answering the question, "Why I'm Glad America is a Nation of Immigrants."

In fact, "A Nation of Immigrants" was the title of a book that President Kennedy wrote in 1958, when he was a Senator. In this book, and throughout his life, he honored America's heritage and history of immigration as a principal source of the Nation's progress and achievements.

I had the privilege of serving as one of the judges for this year's contest, and was very impressed by the young writers. In their essays, they showed great pride in the Nation's diversity and its immigrant heritage, and many students told the story of their own family's immigration.

The winner of this year's contest is Crystal D. Armstead, a fifth grader from Philadelphia. In her essay, she reminds us of America's immigrant foundation and the importance of honoring our diversity. She describes how immigration has affected her family and how it enriches her life today. Other students honored for their creative essays were Robert Banovic of Pittsburgh, PA, Megan Imrie of Orland Park, IL, Carter Jones of Huntington Beach, CA, and Amanda Tabata of Honolulu, HI.

I believe that these award-winning essays in the "Celebrate America" contest will be of interest to all of us in the Senate, and I ask unanimous consent they be printed in the RECORD.

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

GRAND PRIZE WINNER, CRYSTAL D. ARMSTEAD, PHILADELPHIA, PA

REASONS WHY I'M GLAD AMERICA IS A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS:

The United States has the largest immigration population in the world. There are two types of immigrants today. Those who are running from something, and those who are running to something. In the early 1600's there was a third reason. Africans were brought to America against their will as slaves. Africans had no choice but to become part of American culture. Today, African Americans have freedom to leave, but are so much a part of the American society that we remain a part of this country. I'm part of the American melting pot.

My school is an example of America in 2001. There are at least thirty countries represented in my school.

Some of the children in my school don't speak English, or speak very little English. In the classroom, they sometimes have a translator. In the lunchroom and in the school yard, language is not a problem. We play tag, jump rope, and run around the school yard. We need no translators. It is a privilege to go to school with so many cultures.

In the fourth grade, everyone researched their culture and country of origin. My ancestors came from Africa. They weren't