

But there is one place where he comes in No. 2, though it is a remarkable accomplishment nonetheless. This past Friday, Senator INOUE became the second longest serving U.S. Senator in this Nation's history, passing Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina. Every day since Hawaii has been a State, Senator INOUE has proudly represented its citizens in Congress. Every day since January 3, 1963, 46½ years ago, Hawaiians have been proud to call DAN INOUE their Senator. Every day I have had the privilege of knowing him and serving with him, I have been proud to call DAN INOUE my friend.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, last October, the Senate had an opportunity to call attention to one of our colleagues who so rarely calls attention to himself when Senator DANIEL INOUE became the third longest-serving Senator in U.S. history. This past Friday, Senator INOUE reached an even loftier milestone when he surpassed Strom Thurmond to become the second-longest serving Senator in history. So we honor him for this remarkable feat of longevity.

Senator INOUE's dedication to the people of Hawaii is legendary, and so is his story. He was only 17 when he heard the sirens over Honolulu and saw the gray planes overhead. But he was old enough to know that life would never be the same.

Sure enough, a few years later, he would be lying in a hospital bed at Percy Jones Army hospital recovering from wounds sustained in a grenade attack in the mountains of northern Italy. It was there that he first met his future colleague, Bob Dole, who evidently mentioned that after the war he planned to go to Congress.

As it turned out, Senator INOUE beat him by a few years, and he has survived him here in the Senate by many more.

For his heroic actions in World War II, Senator INOUE received our Nation's most prestigious award for military valor, and he has earned the admiration of all Americans. DAN INOUE became a member of one of the most decorated U.S. military units in American history and one of its longest-serving, and finest, Senators. So, Senator, thank you for your service, and congratulations on another remarkable achievement.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii is recognized.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate our senior Senator, my good friend and longtime colleague, Senator DAN INOUE, on his impressive milestone.

On Friday, Senator INOUE became the second-longest-serving Senator in the history of this storied institution.

DAN was sworn into the Senate in 1963, just a few years after Hawaii became a State. At the time, he was the first and only Japanese American to step foot in this room as a Member of this prestigious body. Today, he is the chairman of the Appropriations Committee. DAN INOUE did not just break barriers, he shattered them.

Of course, the Senate is only the most recent chapter in DAN INOUE's lifetime of service to our country, which includes his Medal of Honor service in the Army during World War II, and his service in the Hawaii Territorial Legislature and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Hawaii may be the youngest State in this great country, but as Senator INOUE's milestone demonstrates, our contributions continue to shape the United States of America.

From President Barack Obama, who grew up not far from Senator INOUE's childhood home on the island of Oahu, to each teacher, soldier, construction worker, and farmer, we are proud of the many accomplishments of Hawaii's people. We are proud to be the 50th State, and we are proud of Senator INOUE's long career serving our Nation.

Aloha and congratulations, DAN.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Brian Anthony Jackson, of Louisiana, to be U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Florida (Mr. LEMIEUX) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 186 Ex.]

YEAS—96

Akaka
Alexander
Barrasso
Baucus
Bayh
Begich
Bennet
Bennett
Bingaman
Bond
Boxer
Brown (MA)
Brown (OH)
Brownback

Bunning
Burr
Burriss
Cantwell
Cardin
Carper
Casey
Chambliss
Coburn
Cochran
Collins
Conrad
Corker
Cornyn

Crapo
DeMint
Dodd
Dorgan
Durbin
Ensign
Enzi
Feingold
Feinstein
Franken
Gillibrand
Graham
Grassley
Gregg

Hagan
Harkin
Hatch
Hutchison
Inhofe
Inouye
Isakson
Johanns
Johnson
Kaufman
Kerry
Klobuchar
Kohl
Kyl
Landrieu
Lautenberg
Leahy
Levin
Lieberman
Lincoln
Lugar
McCain
McConnell
Menendez
Merkley
Mikulski
Murkowski
Murray
Nelson (NE)
Nelson (FL)
Pryor
Reed
Reid
Risch
Rockefeller
Sanders
Schumer
Sessions
Shaheen
Shelby
Snowe
Specter
Stabenow
Tester
Thune
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Vitter
Voivovich
Warner
Webb
Whitehouse
Wicker
Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Byrd
LeMieux

McCaskill
Roberts

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, unfortunately I was unable to make this morning's vote on the nomination of Tanya Walton Pratt to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Indiana. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted aye on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Elizabeth Erny Foote, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana?

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

The Senator from Vermont is recognized.

TAX BREAK REPEAL

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I have a pending amendment to the tax extenders bill and want to say a few words on that.

At a time when we have a record-breaking \$13 trillion national debt and an unsustainable Federal deficit, at a time when two out of every three corporations in America paid no Federal income taxes between 1998 and 2005, at a time when ExxonMobil, the most profitable corporation in the history of the world, not only paid no Federal income taxes in 2009 but actually got a \$156 million refund from the IRS, at a time when we desperately need to end our dependence on fossil fuel and transform our energy system, the amendment I am offering, along with Senator WYDEN, Senator WHITEHOUSE, Senator MENENDEZ, and Senator LAUTENBERG, is simple and straightforward.

This amendment simply repeals over \$35 billion in tax breaks to the oil and