It suddenly dawned on me that this boy was the very same age as many of the men who, 50 years ago, had crawled across those bloody beaches and clawed their way up those terrible cliffs, each staring death square in the face.

Some survived, all were heros, but tragically so many were mown down in the springtime of their youth, their lives ended before they had really begun.

I was awed. What tragedy; what tragedy to rob a nation of its youth, to take a son or daughter from a father, mother, a sister or brother, a husband or wife. What tragedy to deny one so young the joys and excitement of life; the warmth of love, the thrill of watching one's children grow.

But then I thought, what if they had not?

Somehow seeing that young soldier made all those grave markers in that cemetery even more real, more alive. It literally slammed home in me the utter cruelty of war, the awfulness of what man can do to man, and equally as important, the enormous gift that all of those who experienced the terribleness of that war gave to us.

I am told that somewhere in Burma there is a marker inscribed with the message: ''We gave our todays so you could enjoy your tomorrows.''

Those of us gathered here today, and in other places around our country, honor the veterans whose legacy of honor, courage and commitment should not, and shall not, ever be forgotten.

Let me tell you that the actions of the young men and women of your Armed Forces tell me that they are, as Colin Powell said in an address here a few years back: ''worthy successors to what you their predecessors have passed on to them.''

You may all have heard of Capt. Scott O'Grady. He was shot down over Bosnia on 2 June.

On the night of 7 June his squadron mate went on a ''fishing expedition'' to try to contact Scott.

At 0200 he got contact with Scott O'Grady. I immediately called the amphibious commander, Jerry Schill and the Marine commander Marty Berndt. Both were on the U.S.S. *Kearsarge* in the Adriatic.

I told them to close the coast/call away your tactical recovery of aircrew and personnel team.

Didn't ask if—just when.

We discussed risks and the possibility of a trap being set.

I told Colonel Berndt you're in charge, look around, if you don't like what you see, come out.

These were educated risks, and we were operating on the edge of the envelope.

Four hours and thirty seven minutes—I got a call, one word—''pickup''.

Not many understand all that occurred.

We had 60 fixed wing aircraft, special operations backup rescue, Marines backup to that.

Went next day to visit, *Aviano, Vicenza,* U.S.S. *Kearsarge*:

There were no complaints, in spite of the mission being early morning, complex, risky.

They thanked me for letting them go.

Says a lot about courage, honor, commitment.

The same characteristics were demonstrated in attempts to locate and rescue the French pilots shot down 30 August.

Plan was developed to recce area of shootdown.

At 0130 I got a call from Mike Ryan.

Same coordination and complexity as the O'Grady rescue.

We tried three successive nights.

All three attempts experienced bad weather, all were shot at.

That this rescue was not consummated in no way detracts from the courage and commitment of those who tried.

These are wonderful stories, and I relive the excitement of those moments each time I tell them.

But the important thing here is that these are real stories about real people who demonstrate, every single time they are asked, the legacy of their predecessors and the strength of our great nation.

There are, in fact, two kinds of strengths. One is capability, and one is character.

Capability is the mechanics, it is the equipment. The machines, the steel, the weapons, the computers, the number of battalions that can be fielded, capability is what we think of when we think of the force.

Character, on the other hand, comes from the commitment of the people. It is the moral fabric that binds a nation together, that gives it purpose and defines its identity.

Yet as different as capability and character seem, it is their combination that makes a nation strong, that empowers it to greatness, that enables it to lead.

I would argue that a nation's strength and greatness is not fully tested until severely stressed, ours has, and we have never been found wanting.

Our veterans defined our strength for us and the memory of what they did gives us strength today.

Joseph Conrad said:

''And now the old ships and their men are gone; the new ships and men have taken their watch on the stern and impatient sea which offers no opportunities but to those who know how to grasp them with a ready hand and an undaunted heart.''

While we thank God for what the old ships and men gave us.

I offer to you, our honored veterans that your worthy successors, the veterans of tomorrow, possess ready hands and undaunted hearts.

They have learned well from your deeds.

We owe you, we owe you a lot. We owe you our thanks, our admiration, and our respect, and we owe you the promise that we shall never allow to be forgotten the deeds performed, nor what you preserved for us.

Your legacy of courage, honor and commitment has been received and will be passed on to future generations.

This has been a singular honor for me and I am grateful to you all for allowing me to join you on this very special occasion.●

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1977

● Mr. MACK. I would like to engage in a colloquy with my colleague from Kentucky, Senator MCCONNELL. Activities funded under the Department of Energy's Codes and Standards Program are primarily concentrated in two subprograms known as Lighting and Appliances and Building Standards and Guidelines. However, as is clear in the Department of Energy's budget, its activities within these two programs extend to areas outside of that which might be assumed under their titles. This would include setting standards for commercial equipment electric motors, as well as the advocacy of minimum energy codes for residential buildings. Therefore, it was my understanding that the intent of the amendment to H.R. 1977 that placed a 1-year time-out on Department of Energy's use of funds to propose, issue, or prescribe any new or amended standard would extend to Department of Energy's activities in advocating changes to minimum codes for residential energy use.

Mr. MCCONNELL. My colleague is correct. While not specifically spelled out in the statutory language of H.R. 1977, it was my intent that this 1-year time-out extended to the entire program as it related to the establishment of minimum standards and codes. I had hoped that this clarification would be made in the conference report, but since there is no report language addressing this issue, I feel it necessary to clarify it here for the record. Indeed, product manufacturers have raised concerns over the methodology and assumptions in Department of Energy's current cost benefit analysis. Similarly, builders have raised concerns over the minimum mandatory standards found in codes enacted by local municipalities or States that use the voluntary products of code and standard organizations over which Department of Energy has significant influence. Builders have told me that these standards are often not responsive to technological innovation, customer needs, or economic consideration of affordability or payback. Therefore, just as there needs to be a time out to review standards-setting activities conducted by the Department of Energy, the same review should apply to its activities relating to residential building codes.

Mr. MACK. I appreciate this clarification. Indeed, considering that the House language eliminated funding for the entire Codes and Standards program, the intent is clear that the House aimed to institute this 1-year time out on Department of Energy's activities in the standards arena as well as in standards which are part of the codes as well as the standards arena. I think it is important that, since the House agreed to recede to Senate language on this issue, which restored the funds cut by the House, that the Senate ensure that the spirit of the House language be carried out.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I would also point out that as means of reaching agreement on Senate language, I was asked to include a caveat stating that the Federal Government was not precluded from promulgating rules concerning energy efficiency standards for the construction of new federally owned commercial and residential buildings. By expressly carving out federally owned buildings, this would indicate further that standards and codes for all other buildings, and thereby privately owned structures, would be covered. It should also be clear that it is not the intent of this language to prevent promulgation of the national Home Energy Rating System voluntary guidelines.●

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1995

Mr. DEWINE. Seeing no other Members of the Senate who wish to speak, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until the hour of 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 5; that