

with the opening battles of the American Revolution, and to help visitors understand and interpret the colonial struggle for their rights and freedoms; and

Whereas the heroic acts of April 19, 1775, are celebrated in Massachusetts and Maine every year as part of Patriot's Day with a reenactment of Paul Revere's famous ride, battle reenactments, educational programs, parades, and civic activities, and remembered by Americans across the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) expresses support for the celebration of Patriot's Day;

(2) recognizes the extraordinary dedication to freedom demonstrated by the Nation's first patriots during the earliest days of the Battle for Independence in April 1775; and

(3) honors those first patriots who lost their lives in defense of liberty and freedom.

EMERGENCY WARTIME SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

Mr. SUNUNU. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate receives from the House the conference report to accompany H.R. 1559, the emergency war supplemental, and with the concurrence of the two leaders, the conference report be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

Mr. REID. Madam President, it is my understanding that even if this is agreed upon, even absent this consent agreement, no rollcall vote on passage of the conference report would have been requested and the report would have been agreed to by voice vote; is that true?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is the understanding of the Chair.

Mr. SUNUNU. That is my understanding.

Mr. REID. No objection.

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

COLLOQUY BETWEEN SENATOR SMITH AND CHAIRMAN STEVENS ON ARMY PROCUREMENT OF THE CHITOSAN HEMORRHAGE CONTROL DRESSING

Mr. SMITH. Madam President, I would like to call my colleagues' attention to a revolutionary development in hemorrhage control which is expected to save lives of American soldiers now lost due to uncontrolled bleeding on the battlefield.

According to military physicians, 90 percent of soldiers killed in war die before they reach a medical facility, most often of blood loss. Wounds to the extremities are considered the main preventable cause of death in military action.

Using Army funds added by Congress over the past few years to spur medical technology to help our soldiers, researchers at the Oregon Medical Laser Center at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland have developed a hemorrhage control dressing made principally of chitosan and vinegar. Chitosan is an inexpensive material found in the exoskeleton of shrimp.

Last fall the FDA cleared the external use of this dressing. The approval

was expedited at the request of the Commander of the Army's Medical Research and Materiel Command, who wrote to the FDA, and I quote:

This dressing will significantly improve the ability of medics to control hemorrhage from extremity wounds. As a result of independent efficacy studies done at the United States Army Institute of Surgical Research, we feel that the Hemcon chitosan bandage is critical in our efforts to the control of severe external hemorrhage in the combat environment.

Subsequent to FDA clearance, this bandage was incorporated into military medical doctrine. According to the newest draft tactical combat care doctrine, "... every combatant should carry both a tourniquet and a hemostatic dressing as part of his personal gear loadout, and should be trained in their use."

The dressing is now being manufactured by an Oregon company, HemCon, under contract to the Army. I believe the Army should make a major commitment of funds to speed these bandages to our troops. I inquire of the Chairman if there is sufficient flexibility in this bill for the Army to purchase this dressing.

Mr. STEVENS. I thank my colleague for his inquiry and would respond that we have provided billions of dollars to the Army, with knowledge that there are uncertainties remaining in our action in Iraq. Certainly I would encourage the Army to place purchase of these bandages among their highest priorities, given the indications I have seen of the lives to be saved.

Mr. SMITH. I thank my distinguished colleague, who continually shows his dedication to the men and women of our armed forces. Equipping each of our soldiers in Iraq with this bandage would be a very positive step we can take to save lives. Even if, as we all hope, the main military thrust of our forces in Iraq is successfully concluded in the near future, it is likely that threats from isolated but armed Iraqi paramilitary forces will remain in the months ahead. I would encourage the Army to procure these bandages as quickly as possible to meet the military's own goal of providing one to each soldier.

HONORING MICHAEL KELLY

Mr. SUNUNU. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 121, which was submitted earlier today by Senator MCCONNELL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 121) honoring the life of Washington Post columnist and Atlantic Monthly editor Michael Kelly in expressing deepest condolences of the Senate to his family on his death.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, Michael Kelly died nearly a week ago while covering the U.S. Army's Third Infantry Division's march to liberate Baghdad. It is difficult for me to believe that he was only 46 years old. Michael Kelly's contributions to American journalism and American politics were not the contributions of a young man but those of a witty, political observer whose love of his country and delight in the pastime of American politics was as boundless as the American dream itself. Michael Kelly, so deeply committed to preserving freedom and liberty, should be in Baghdad right now relishing in the awakening of the Iraqi people to their new lease on life, liberty, and freedom from fear.

I did not fully realize the extent of his contribution to the American political discourse until I opened the Washington Post yesterday and noticed that his Wednesday column was dark. At that moment, I realized how gaping a void Michael Kelly's death has left in the pages of newspapers throughout the country, and in the hearts and minds of his countless readers.

He was in life, and will remain in death, an icon for all who shared his interest and obvious passion for the theatre of American politics. His bemused commentary and good-natured derision from the balcony of our political arena—and his delight in watching political virtuosi and vaudevillians march across the stage—place him in my book among the great political commentators of our time.

Although I did not know Michael Kelly, his writings reminded me of the satisfaction and glory that accompanies fighting for just causes and deeply held beliefs, however unpopular they may be in certain circles. His life and work stand as reminders of why partisanship—even bitter partisanship—can be often an immensely positive contribution to American politics. Like that of my former colleague and friend, the late Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Michael Kelly's style of partisanship made an eloquent and thoughtful contribution to the important debates about the future of our country.

Michael Kelly's style—witty, acerbic, curmudgeonly, and independent—invited obvious comparisons to another famous American journalist: H.L. Mencken. Like Mencken, Kelly relished the opportunity to fire rhetorical grapeshot across the bow of his political adversaries. His refusal to mute his criticism of liberal politicians while he was serving as the editor of the left-leaning New Republic is reminiscent of Mencken's long-running feud with President Roosevelt. There is also a superficial connection, too, as Kelly spent an early part of his career as a reporter for the Baltimore Sun, a newspaper made famous under the stewardship of its iconic reporter and editor.

More substantively, Michael Kelly, like Mencken, was much more than a newspaperman. He was a man of letters, and a powerful political voice.