

Iraq have ended, and that America and her Allies are turning our efforts toward helping the Iraqi people build a free society.

Like many Americans, I was thrilled and heartened by the dramatic images of U.S. troops helping Iraqi citizens tear down statues and paintings of Saddam Hussein. The Iraqi people needed our help, our tanks, our troops, and our commitment to topple Saddam Hussein.

For the first time in their lives, many Iraqis are tasting freedom, and like people everywhere, they think it is wonderful. I am proud of our military and America's commitment to make the people of the Middle East more free and secure.

Our military men and women may face more difficult days in Iraq, and the Iraqi people will be tested by the responsibilities that come with freedom. The thugs who propped up the previous regime and outside forces with goals of their own may cause problems, stir up trouble and initiate violence. Freedom is messy—nowhere more so than in a country that has just shaken off a brutal dictatorship.

But today I rise to honor a man who made the ultimate sacrifice one can make for his country. Donald Oaks, who was stationed at Fort Sill, would have turned 21 on April 26. He was a bright young man who was good at math and computers. Also, he enjoyed playing baseball and fishing with his dad. He joined the Army to get money for a college education after his service. His mother Laurie Oaks said, "He was my best friend and was always my hero. He still is." He was engaged to be married.

Tragically, the death of Specialist Oaks was said to be a result of friendly fire in the form of coalition bombs. While our military always works to prevent such accidents, they always occur during warfighting.

The fact that his death was accidental in no way diminishes his sacrifice. He gave his life to protect us, and our freedoms, and to make people he had never met, halfway around the world, free in their own country.

As we watch the dawn of a new day in Iraq, let us never forget that the freedom we enjoy every day in America is bought at a price.

Specialist Oaks did not die in vain. He died so that many others could live freely. For that sacrifice, we are forever indebted. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family today and with the troops who are putting their lives on the line in Iraq.

TRIBUTE TO CMSGT RET. LOUIS BROWN

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I just received word that a dear friend of mine, the Air Force Academy, and the State of Colorado passed away last night and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize retired Chief Master Sergeant Louis Brown Jr. One of Colorado's finest citizens, CMSgt, Ret., Louis Brown Jr., has made numerous contributions to the young

men and women—past, present and future—of the United States Air Force Academy. Chief Brown has been a steadfast proponent and volunteered more than 10 years of service to recruit, advise, interview, and mentor cadets for the Air Force Academy with my congressional office. Additionally, he has spent over 30 years of tireless interaction with some of the Air Force's finest officers and Academy graduates.

Chief Brown has made a difference to the Air Force, the Air Force Academy, and to Colorado as a whole. Specifically, he has worked countless hours with members of my staff since my tenure in the United States Congress helping to interview potential candidates to the academy, educating them on the appointment process, and encouraging these young men and women to contribute to the United States armed forces. He has been a mentor and a role model to countless cadets who have gone forward to become Air Force officers.

I want to honor the life of Chief Brown who served the Air Force first as an enlisted Airman and later in life as an advocate for recruitment of future officers. His contributions to the State of Colorado and the United States Air Force will not be forgotten. I ask the Senate now to join me in thanking Chief Brown and his family for these contributions and also to pray for his loved ones in their time of mourning.

MEMORIAL DAY: HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the many individuals who have died in defense of our great Nation. Next week we will all return to our States to join our constituents in honoring those who gave their lives to ensure that we enjoy the principles of liberty and justice as Americans.

One of my constituents, Mr. Keith Haugen, has written a song entitled "Walking Through the Memories, A Requiem to the Fallen." Mr. Haugen served in the U.S. Army and has been honored by a number of organizations for songs he has written to honor military members and veterans. Mr. Haugen will perform this song on Memorial Day at the National Memorial of the Pacific.

I have reviewed the lyrics to this melody and have Mr. Haugen's permission to share them with my colleagues. I ask unanimous consent to print a copy of these lyrics in the RECORD.

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

WALKING THROUGH THE MEMORIES, A REQUIEM TO THE FALLEN

(By Keith Haugen, ASCAP)

The peace they fought for is right here, between the rows of crosses
They died to save our freedom, they're numbered among our losses

Although they came from far and wide, this place is now their home

A peaceful, final resting place, where they'll never be alone

And I'm walking through the memories, where honor knows no end

That unmarked grave is special, for I know that he's my friend

We were comrades on a foreign shore, buddies to the end

In the distance I hear a bugle call, as I stroll alone with God

It's haunting voice is singing "Taps" for those beneath the sod

And I'm walking through the memories of those who gave their all

Walking, walking, walking, past graves both old and new

Their sun has set, their day is done, they were the chosen few

We salute and pay our tribute, flags and flowers all abound

They all came back to make their home in this hallowed ground

And I'm walking through the memories of those who gave their all

Yes, I'm walking through the memories where honor knows no end

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, this Memorial Day is an especially meaningful time for our Nation. It comes as the images of defending freedom and democracy are still fresh in our minds.

This weekend, we remember and honor the men and women who paid the ultimate price for their country. Flags fly at half-mast, relatives and friends place wreaths and flowers on the graves of their loved ones, and communities host parades adorned in red, white, and blue. In actuality, these tributes are small acts we perform in an effort to express our gratitude to those who have served the cause of freedom.

Since the time of the Civil War, communities have paid tribute to fallen soldiers with spontaneous gestures of remembrance. In May of 1868, GEN. John A. Logan officially recognized the public's desire to honor those who died in pursuit of liberty by declaring May 30 of each year a day to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers. A century later, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed legislation declaring, in part, that Memorial Day be held the last Monday of May every year.

Memorial Day weekend has since become a signal for family gatherings, barbecues, sales at the mall, trips to the beach, and the opening of community pools. We should celebrate our freedom but we must also remember that freedom is not free—it comes to us at a great cost. In our Nation's history, upwards of 40 million Americans have risked life and limb to defend our country and make the world a safer place. More than a million service men and women have died for our country. Moreover, 140,000 were taken as prisoners of war and many of them have never been accounted for. They are our Nation's heroes who acted selflessly throughout our history to bring forth freedom and opportunity for generations.

We also honor the families who bear the heaviest burden of liberty. Our fallen and missing soldiers were moms,

dads, brothers, sisters, sons, and daughters. They are not statistics but empty voids in their families' hearts. While the grief and pain for some may not have faded, I hope it is comforting for them to know that their fallen loves ones' cause was just.

In addition, let us remember that thousands of service men and women will spend this Memorial Day stationed in other countries defending our freedoms far away from their families. I join Americans today in a prayer for peace so that we can reunite them with their loves ones soon.

We take 1 day out of the year to honor our fallen soldiers but we benefit from their sacrifice each and every day. I hope that Arkansians will take a break from their Memorial Day activities to remember and honor our fallen soldiers. Let us display the noble patriotism for our country that our Armed Forces exemplify each day.

HONORING SERGEANT RICHARD CARL OF KING HILL, IDAHO

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to mark a sad occasion that is underway in my home State of Idaho. We are burying one of our soldiers who was killed during the war in Iraq, and I wanted to take a few moments to share my thoughts with you about SGT Richard Carl. While I was not privileged to know him personally during his short 26 years, he has come alive for me through the memories that you have shared in the past few days. He is remembered as a son to Richard and Karen, a husband to Audrey, a father to 3-year-old Ealy Ann and 18-month-old Dominick, and a friend to many, many others.

It is a weighty job—the one we, as a nation, ask of people like Sergeant Carl. It brings uncertainty and sacrifice, not just for the troops, but for their families and loved ones. But our Nation is built on the foundations laid by good people like Sergeant Carl, and it is through their sacrifice, that their children and our children will inherit a free nation.

Such lofty language pales against the stark reality that confronts us today at this service. In the last few days, news articles have brought a quiet, brave family man to the attention of many Idahoans. I have been touched by the memories of good deeds, unheralded kindness, and a good heart. One memory frequently mentioned was that he was always helping someone else, and that is a remarkable legacy to leave. In his duty to his country, he died helping someone else—in this case, an injured Iraqi child who needed to be taken to a hospital. We cannot find the words to express the full extent of the debt that we owe to Sergeant Carl and so many other young men and women who have served our country to the fullest measure.

In his wife Audrey's words, "Our family is dealing with this loss as well as can be expected. Richard was a good man, and while he was not known to the world, he played an important role.

We are so proud of his contributions to our nation and his role in making the world a better place. He will never be forgotten."

We are honored to have him remembered as an Idahoan. We are blessed to have had him here, even for the short time, and I am confident that those who knew him will make certain that his children have the opportunity to know their father through those memories. Sergeant Carl and so many others who have sacrificed for our freedoms will continue in my thoughts and prayers and in our Nation's grateful hearts.

NATIONAL FORMER PRISONER OF WAR RECOGNITION DAY

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, today I rise with my colleague Senator PATTY MURRAY to sponsor a resolution federally acknowledging April 9, 2003, and recognizing April 9, 2004, as National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day.

As we watch the overjoyed faces of soldiers returning home from Iraq on television, we also remember those taken hostage by enemy forces. In this age of technology, we watched the images of brave soldiers from Operation Iraqi Freedom, courageous in the face of physical and mental hardships most of us can only imagine. I am outraged and saddened that, in clear violation of international treaties, opposing troops have taken even one of our fighting American men and women against their will.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of all of these soldiers, from recent as well as past conflicts. It is my sincere hope that the still-captive prisoners from previous wars will be home to participate in the celebrations next April, and I have faith that they will be.

At this time, it is appropriate that we pause and reflect on the bravery and sacrifice made by all of our Nation's former prisoners of war, and to remember that tens of thousands of our friends and neighbors have endured unthinkable brutality fighting throughout America's history.

The men and women who braved captivity and imprisonment gave up months and years of their lives to ensure the continuation of the freedom we enjoy today. Their service has taught us about patriotism, perseverance, and character. There is little we can do to repay these men and women but we can recognize their invaluable contribution.

I urge my colleagues to join Senator MURRAY and myself in cosponsoring this important resolution honoring our former prisoners of war.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT COMPLIANCE

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, pursuant to section 313(c) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, I submit for the RECORD a list of material in the conference agreement on H.R. 2 consid-

ered to be extraneous under subsections (b)(1)(A), (b)(1)(B), and (b)(1)(E) of section 313. The inclusion or exclusion of material on the following list does not constitute a determination of extraneousness by the Presiding Officer of the Senate.

To the best of my knowledge, H.R. 2, the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003, contains no material considered to be extraneous under subsections (b)(1)(A), (b)(1)(B), and (b)(1)(E) of section 313 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

SUBMITTING CHANGES TO COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS AND BUDGETARY AGGREGATES

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, section 310(c)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended, provides the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee with authority to revise committee allocations, functional levels, and budgetary aggregates for a reconciliation conference report which fulfills an instruction with respect to both outlays and revenues. The chairman's authority under section 310(c) may be exercised if the following conditions have been satisfied:

1. The conferees report a bill which changes the mix of the instructed revenue and outlay changes by not more than 20 percent of the sum of the components of the instruction, and,

2. The conference agreement still complies with the overall reconciliation instruction.

I find that the conference report on H.R. 2, the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003, satisfies the two conditions above and pursuant to my authority under section 310(c), I hereby submit revisions to H. Con. Res. 95, the 2004 Budget Resolution. The attached tables show the revised committee allocations and budgetary aggregates.

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:

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004—H. CON. RES. 95 REVISIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 310(c)(2)(A)

For the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003, Conference Report [In billions of dollars]

<i>Section 101</i>	
(1)(A) Revenues (on-budget):	
FY 2003	1310.347
FY 2004	1331.000
FY 2005	1499.842
FY 2006	1656.090
FY 2007	1788.688
FY 2008	1900.567
FY 2009	2053.762
FY 2010	2167.937
FY 2011	2270.540
FY 2012	2403.572
FY 2013	2547.546
(1)(B) Changes in Federal Revenues:	
FY 2003	-49.487
FY 2004	-135.370