

ought to be paid for with Iraqi oil. The Ambassador will say, Well, there is not enough money left for the operation of the Iraqi Government, but the Ambassador also said yesterday with some satisfaction that they just put a new tax system in the country of Iraq. He said with some satisfaction that the top income tax rate is 15 percent.

So we are going to ask the Americans who will pay a top rate of 39-percent income tax to send reconstruction money to Iraq whose economy is generating an income tax against that with respect to its wealthiest citizens at a rate of a 15-percent tax rate. I don't think that makes much sense.

My only point is this: Of the \$20 billion, \$5 billion is for security. So there is \$15 billion for security and reconstruction above the military needs. I believe that what we ought to do is have the Ambassador and the administration work very hard to resolve these debts. It seems to me one might well tell the Saudis and the Kuwaitis: You loaned the money to the Saddam Hussein regime. You know that debt is owed to you by Saddam Hussein. Go find him and go collect it. If you think you can find him, tell us where he is. But go find him and collect it. That ought not be a burden on the country of Iraq. The government with which you engaged in this credit transaction no longer exists.

Following that, it seems to me that it would be reasonable to securitize or collateralize Iraqi oil. We know they will by next June or July be pumping 3 million barrels per day. The amount that is not needed in Iraq but that is available for export will yield revenues of about \$16 billion a year. That is \$160 billion in 10 years, or \$320 billion in 20 years, this for a country of 24 million people. If you can't securitize or collateralize \$320 billion over 10 years to pay for a \$20 billion reconstruction of Iraq, then there is something wrong with all the financiers and all the tall thinkers who are working on this.

I believe the money requested is necessary. But I believe the construct of the reconstruction in Iraq and the payment for that reconstruction should not be a burden on the shoulders of the American taxpayer—not taxpayers who are paying more than double the rate the top taxpayers in Iraq will be asked to bear and not taxpayers who should pay taxes so Iraqi oil wells can pump oil to send money to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. What a perverse result that would be.

We are going to have a lot of discussion about that, and we should have. The President has made a request and said the money is necessary. He is right. The money is necessary. The question is not whether it is necessary on the military side because we ought to appropriate that money. We ought to do it now, and we ought not delay.

On the reconstruction side, let us understand the money is necessary but it ought to come from the resources from Iraqi oil. By my calculation, those re-

sources would be \$320 billion conservatively in the next 20 years. It is easy to collateralize or securitize that with the private sector. Or, for that matter, if you do not want the private sector with the IMF or the World Bank in order not to impose this burden on the American taxpayer but instead rely on Iraqi oil, once again the second largest reserves of oil in the world under the sands of Iraq, a country with 24 million people, they surely can afford to construct a plan—that is, the Iraqi council, and also the allies that are involved, including this country—can surely construct a plan by which we use that resource to reconstruct and reinvest in that country. It is Iraq's resource. It is Iraq's oil. It ought not be an obligation of the American taxpayer to pay for that portion of the emergency request.

My hope is, as we begin these discussions in the coming days, that two things will emerge: No. 1, the President and others will understand that Congress is going to respond and respond affirmatively to the needs that exist, especially for our soldiers but also with respect to reconstruction, and, No. 2, that Congress does not, should not, and will not respond by imposing a burden on the taxpayers of this country for the reconstruction needs that should be financed with Iraqi oil. That is a debate that we must have.

I hope the result will be positive for the American taxpayer and positive for the people of Iraq, for that matter, because they have substantial resources with which to reconstruct the infrastructure of Iraq, which, by the way, was not destroyed by this country. That infrastructure in Iraq was not destroyed by this country's military campaign. This country's military campaign removed a brutal dictator. We are now opening football-field-size graves containing 10,000 and 12,000 skeletons.

That campaign, however, while removing the Saddam Hussein government, did not destroy their country's infrastructure, and there are plenty of resources under the sands of Iraq to produce oil with which to produce revenue to reinvest in that infrastructure and in the future without having the American people bear that burden.

NOMINATION OF GOVERNOR MIKE LEAVITT TO HEAD THE EPA

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I rise to commend President Bush for nominating Gov. Mike Leavitt to be head of the Environmental Protection Agency. Governor Leavitt's hearing was this morning and, from all accounts, he performed admirably, as I would expect. He is a distinguished public servant who has worked diligently to address the environmental problems in Utah and the Western States.

I believe the President has found the right person for the job of leading the EPA. The EPA Administrator must es-

tablish realistic regulations that often require compromise and balance. In my experience, almost all of the issues that deal with our environment require a good sense of balance because there are so many competing interests. Governor Leavitt has demonstrated his ability to work with all groups affected by environmental regulation. He pulled together, for example, Governors, tribal leaders, industrial leaders, and environmental activists to get behind a comprehensive plan to clear the haze obscuring the scenic views in the West, including the Grand Canyon.

For nearly 11 years, Governor Leavitt managed to bring together a diverse group of State and tribal officials, industrial leaders, and environmental activists who focused on developing a plan which led to action that is clearing the air in the West.

I hope that a similar plan can be developed to clear the haze in the great Smoky Mountain National Park, which is about 2 miles from where I live. It is the Nation's most visited national park, and it also has earned the unwelcome distinction of becoming the most polluted national park in America.

We welcome the help of Governor Leavitt as head of the EPA in coming up and working with our Governor and Federal delegation and our communities in Tennessee, who are very concerned about this, to help get on a long-term path that would clear the haze in the Smokies and restore its natural beauty.

This will require cooperation among local, State, and Federal Governments and industry and environmental activists. I believe Governor Leavitt is the right person to help lead that effort. He has demonstrated he can do this by getting collaboration among groups instead of polarization.

As Governor, Mike Leavitt has encouraged results-oriented environmental action. I strongly support his views that policy should encourage outside-the-box thinking in solving problems rather than just complying with Federal programs.

Our environmental problems are complex. They require examination of many strategies to achieve our Nation's goals. The EPA Administrator plays a crucial role in balancing our desire to protect the environment and our desire for jobs and prosperity.

I believe we can have good jobs and strong industry and clean air and clean energy. The solutions are not easy, and in most cases—many cases—require new technology. However, with Governor Leavitt's leadership, I believe we will be able to develop the solutions and partnership to meet realistic environmental goals.

The job of protecting the environment is a difficult one, one in which I take a great personal interest. The President of the United States—this President—has distinguished himself by making a number of superb appointments. He has made another such nomination, and I look forward to the

chance to vote for Mike Leavitt as EPA Administrator.

May I add just a personal note, Mr. President? I was elected Governor first in 1978 in Tennessee. Since then, I have known more than 200 Governors, probably served with 80 or 100. Only a handful of those Governors, some on each side of the aisle—Democratic and Republican—have really understood the job, have used that office to set a clear agenda to develop a strategy to meet the agenda, and then persuade at least half the people they are right. All three of those elements are being part of being a good Governor. Those Governors have transformed their States.

Mike Leavitt is one of those Governors. Because of that, he was elected to be the chair of the National Governors' Association. He would not have been elected, and he would not have succeeded in the job if he had not been able to work with both Democratic and Republican Governors. He has earned and shares the respect of all who have known and worked with him. He is one of the outstanding State leaders of the last quarter of a century. He has a great sense of balance. He has an imaginative sense of what is possible, and he has an excellent ability to persuade half that he is right, which is a very important part of doing that job.

I am very pleased to see him coming to Washington, and I am delighted with President Bush's appointment. I wanted to be among the first to welcome him here. I thank the Chair.

CEASAR SALICCHI

Mr. REID. Mr. President, in 1970, a young man in Elko, NV spent \$365 to run for the position of Elko County Treasurer.

That was the last time Ceasar Salicchi ever had to spend a dime in a political campaign . . . and the last time he had an opponent.

Since then, Salicchi has won eight additional terms as county treasurer. Overall, his career in public service to the people of Elko County has spanned five different decades . . . almost 42 years.

For those who have never had the fortune of visiting northeast Nevada, it is in the opinion of many the most beautiful part of the Silver State. Elko County boasts majestic mountains, and unlike most other parts of our state, gets enough rain to provide good range for livestock. So Elko is a prime area for ranching—a place, it would seem, where many beautiful scenes in cowboy movies could have been filmed.

Salicchi is the son of local ranchers Cesare and Nella Salicchi, Italian immigrants who are now deceased. Ceasar served in the Army in 1945 and '46, and returned home to start ranching with his father and his brother, Alfred. He married his first wife, Jeanine, in 1950, and they started a family and settled into life on the ranch.

I am sure Ceasar expected to spend his life as a rancher, as so many in that

part of the country do. But on December 15, 1952, at age 25, he was stricken with polio. After his recovery, he faced living with disabilities that required him to walk with crutches.

Salicchi vowed that he wouldn't let his disabilities keep him down . . . and they certainly did not. Since ranching was no longer a viable way for him to support a young family, he went to the Reno Business College, earned a degree in business administration, and set out to forge a new career.

His exceptional skills in organization and fiscal management not only allowed him to succeed in that endeavor, but also benefited the people of Elko County.

In 1962, Ceasar was working in the local hardware store on Commercial Street in downtown Elko. A man named Al Haber, the accountant for the county-owned Elko General Hospital, offered him a job as the hospital's business manager.

Ceasar immediately started making positive changes in the hospital's operations. For example, he is credited with bringing the first computer to the hospital, an IBM Model 3. As he continued to look for ways to make things run better, he developed a reputation as a good steward of the public's money.

He decided to run for county treasurer in 1970, promising to modernize operations in the same way he had done at the hospital. The people of Elko County had faith in him, and he won the election. Since then, he has been re-elected eight times without opposition.

Salicchi is a life-long Democrat, and he reminisces with razor-sharp clarity about voting for President Harry Truman after he returned home from his Army tour in 1948.

But the secret to his political success is a personal approach to the job, not ideology.

"I enjoy this job," he says. "Serving the public and friends provides me with personal satisfaction, and service is my main objective."

He has provided tremendous service. At the time Ceasar took office, all of the financial operations at the Elko courthouse were still performed by hand. About 9,000 tax bills were processed by hand, and kept on the treasurer's office counter for people to walk in and pay.

Salicchi's efforts to modernize the office began in 1976 with the installation of the first computer system, and modernization has continued to this day. Earlier this year, following approval from the county commission, the treasurer's office successfully began auctioning delinquent property on the Internet.

Today, Ceasar's office processes more than 37,000 tax bills each year. He also oversees the management and investment of public money. The portfolio for Elko County runs from \$19 million to \$23 million, and the interest and dividends are distributed to the local school district and other public funds.

In the 1970s, when national efforts to protect the rights of persons with disabilities were just beginning, Salicchi served on several Governor-appointed committees to implement those policies in Nevada. That was around the same time I first met Ceasar, when I was running for Lieutenant Governor.

Since then, it has always been a delight to visit Elko and see Ceasar. I was there just a few weeks ago, and I asked him if he was planning to retire anytime soon.

He responded with that familiar twinkle in his eye and sly grin: "Maybe."

But his wife Darlene, who is also his biggest supporter, said, "We'll see about that."

While Ceasar has faithfully served the people of Elko County, his first love has always been his family.

His first wife, Jeanine, passed away on October 23, 1969. In 1984 he married Darlene, whom he had met when they both worked at the county hospital. Their children include Judy Trotter and Chet Gilbert, both of Elko; Tina Snow of Anchorage, Alaska; Dee Dee Kelsey of Aldrich, Minnesota; and Paul Gilbert of Los Angeles. Two sons, Ceasar Raymond Salicchi and Doug Shatto, are deceased.

Ceasar Salicchi has been a fixture in the public life of Elko, NV since 1962. The city of Elko, Elko County, and the State of Nevada are all better places because of a man who doesn't know the meaning of defeat—Ceasar Salicchi.

TRIBUTE TO GREG MADDUX

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to salute a great Nevedan, a great human being and a great athlete . . . my friend, Greg Maddux.

Mr. Maddux pitches for the Atlanta Braves baseball club. Since he went to Atlanta almost 11 years ago, the Braves have won their division every single season.

This is no coincidence. Greg Maddux has been the heart and soul of the Atlanta Braves and the key to their remarkable string of success.

From 1992 through 1995, he won the Cy Young award as the best pitcher in baseball—4 years in a row. No other pitcher has ever accomplished that—and I doubt anyone else ever will.

He finished the 1990s with a 2.54 earned run average for the decade. Only two pitchers had posted a better ERA over a decade since 1910—Hoyt Wilhelm and Sandy Koufax. That's pretty good company. And in 1995, Maddux became the first pitcher to log back-to-back seasons with an ERA under 1.80.

From 1990 through 2001—12 consecutive years—Greg won the National League Gold Glove as the league's best-fielding pitcher.

He pitched nine scoreless innings in game one of the 1995 World Series, leading the Braves over the Cleveland Indians.