

vested interest in the status quo." Today, these words take on new significance. The U.N.'s mission of peace must bring closer the day when all states exercise their sovereignty responsibly, deal with internal dangers before these threaten their citizens and those of other states, enable and empower their citizens to choose the kind of lives they would like to live, and act with other states to meet global threats and challenges. In short, the U.N. must steer all of the world's peoples toward "better standards of life in larger freedom." The U.N. summit in September is the chance for all of us to set out on that path.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, Kofi Annan also stated there is considerable overlap between the Mitchell-Gingrich task force report and the reforms he himself is proposing, and that he is prepared to implement them.

He stated:

All of us want to make the U.N.'s management more transparent and accountable, and its oversight mechanisms stronger and more independent.

He stated:

All of us want to make the U.N.'s human rights machinery more credible . . . by replacing the present Commission on Human Rights with a Human Rights Council.

He also stated:

All of us want to impose stricter standards of conduct on U.N. peacekeeping missions, especially an end to sexual abuse and exploitation.

These statements indicate we are in a unique position with the U.N. and there is a sincere interest in reform. We have to seize this opportunity now.

When you are dealing with an organization that understands the need for reform and is echoing our objectives and is ready to cooperate, we need to send in not the "bad cop," or the guy with the "sharp elbows," or the guy who says, "I don't do carrots." We need to send the "good cop," the guy who knows how to reap the benefits of the environment for change and make it happen.

John Bolton is a bold contradiction to the efforts to improve the image of the U.S. at this critical time, as well as a contradiction to the President's efforts to ramp up public diplomacy.

John Bolton is a bold contradiction to efforts to reform the U.N. If we do not send the right person to the U.N., there is substantial risk we might lose this unprecedented and ripe opportunity to achieve important reforms.

The person we send to the U.N. will have great influence on the world's perception of the United States, our values, our decency, and will be critical to the urgent reforms that must be made at the U.N.

Our success on these issues—public diplomacy and U.N. reform—will have an enormous impact on our ability to win the war on terrorism, to promote peace in the world and, most importantly, whether we live in an America that is free from terror.

Mr. President, how many minutes do I have left?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator has 3½ minutes.

ADVERTISING FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I will comment for a couple of minutes on the very fine statement the leader made in regard to the advertising for prescription drugs. I think he made a clear statement and sends a large message to the drug companies that they have to reevaluate their advertising campaign. The statement confirms the fact to the American people that we are paying more for drugs because of those advertising costs.

I think it is particularly appropriate for us to be raising this issue at this time because this year millions of Americans—Medicare-eligible people—are going to be signing up to take advantage of the prescription drug benefits of the Medicare Modernization Act. It is very important that while they are signing up and taking advantage of this new opportunity—an opportunity that I think will make the largest improvement in public health since the advent of the Medicare Program—they don't just willy-nilly have drugs prescribed for them that they may or may not need.

I think one other point needs to be made, and that is, in this era in which we live, we all have to be our own best friend. At one time, I took Vioxx. I called my pharmacist and discussed other drugs I was taking. He told me Vioxx contributed to an increase in blood pressure. I was taking other drugs to bring down my blood pressure. I decided voluntarily that this doesn't make sense and I got off Vioxx. I lost 10 pounds. Now, once in a while when I have arthritic pain, I take a Motrin. But the fact is that all of us Members of Congress and the ordinary public have to pay a lot more attention to the drugs we are taking because, as the leader said, the side effects are significant and we have to be careful about it.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

JUSTICE SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I have come to the floor to make comments concerning our good friend, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. It has been Catherine's and my honor to have become very close to the O'Connors.

I want to tell the Senate that I think Justice Sandra Day O'Connor is one of the most extraordinary and gracious women I have ever known. She has come to Alaska often. What most people don't know is she is a very fine fisherman person. I think one of the most interesting letters I ever received in my life was the letter I received from Sandra Day after she had gone fishing to a remote fishing lodge in Alaska. She was the only woman there at the time. She fished through some rainy periods and sunny periods and gave a general

description of the joy she had being able to have the time to fish and to think as she did that. It was a real joy to read that letter.

I also asked Sandra Day O'Connor to come to Alaska and speak—she has been there many times—at the Anchorage Library. She gave a stirring address to mainly young women who were part of the Alaska State Bar Association. That evening, we had a dinner for Justice O'Connor, and her husband John asked for the privilege of introducing her. I want to tell the Senate that I think that was probably the most moving tribute I ever heard a husband deliver for his wife in my life.

Her husband John is a fine lawyer and a devoted husband. He told us a story of how he felt when Sandra Day got the call asking her if she would become a member of the Supreme Court. Sandra Day O'Connor, just 2 weeks ago, at my request, took a group of the Chinese delegates to the Senate-Chinese parliamentary conference to the Supreme Court of the United States. She took the time to take these Chinese representatives through the Court and explain our judicial process and how it is an essential function of our democracy to these delegates who came to meet to discuss issues of great importance to the nation of China and our own Nation. The way she handled those people and the gracious way in which she described the functions in the chamber, and took us to the courtroom and explained how the Court listens to the attorneys who present cases and how the Court reacts individually to statements, and the type of questions she puts to the attorneys who represent various litigants, was a most instructive session for our Chinese friends. Again, it demonstrated the depth of Sandra Day O'Connor. She is one great lady.

She has been an exemplary public servant who has made exceptional contributions not only to the Supreme Court but to our Nation. I think she will be remembered in this country as a groundbreaker, overcoming adversity and stereotypes. She was the first woman nominated to be a member of our Supreme Court.

She is a native of southeastern Arizona and she grew up on an isolated ranch owned by her parents. The ranch itself did not receive electricity or running water until she was seven. My wife's family had a similar experience living in another part of Arizona. I think that is one of the reasons we have become so close to the O'Connors.

She received her bachelor's degree in economics, magna cum laude, from Stanford University in 1950. After she received her bachelor's degree, O'Connor enrolled at Stanford Law School, graduating third in her class and serving on the Stanford Law Review. It was during law school that she met her husband, John.

After graduating from law school, she faced a tough job market as a female attorney. After having difficulty

finding a position in the private sector, Sandra Day O'Connor accepted a position working as Deputy County Attorney for San Mateo County, California.

When her husband John was drafted into the JAG Corps in 1953, she moved to Frankfurt, Germany with him and served as a civilian attorney for the Quartermaster Market Center from 1954–1957.

After leaving Germany, O'Connor returned to Arizona and again faced difficulty in finding employment with a private law firm. As a result, she began a small practice of her own where she practiced from 1958–1960.

In 1965, after returning to work following a brief hiatus to care for her children, O'Connor accepted a position as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Arizona.

In 1968, she was appointed to the Arizona State Senate by the governor to fill a vacancy. O'Connor successfully defended her Senate seat in the next election, and was subsequently re-elected to two more terms. During this time, O'Connor was elected to be majority leader of the Arizona Senate.

O'Connor was elected Judge of Maricopa County Superior Court in 1975 and she served until 1979 when she was appointed to the Arizona Court of Appeals. In 1981, President Reagan appointed her as the first woman to sit on the Supreme Court and she was confirmed unanimously by the Senate.

During her time on the Court, Justice O'Connor has proven herself to be a brilliant jurist and a strong defender of the Constitution. She is known for her fairness and her desire to seek practical solutions for even the most difficult decisions the Court has ruled on.

Justice O'Connor has proven to be an independent thinker and a vigorous questioner, narrowing in on precise legal issues with laser-like precision from the bench.

She has lived up to her promise to respect the Constitution and to interpret the law judiciously, seeking the narrowest reach possible for the Court's rulings. Justice O'Connor is known for approaching each case individually, seeking to arrive at practical conclusions.

Justice O'Connor has been a great advocate for the Court. She has traveled the globe, speaking to thousands of students, lawyers, foreign dignitaries and others on the judiciary, the Constitution, and the law.

Justice O'Connor's love of this Nation, its judicial process, and the law is widely known. In her most recent book, "Majesty of the Law: Reflections of a Supreme Court Justice" she insightfully describes the institution of the court, its history, customs and some of its notable members.

Justice O'Connor, is "one of the most significant historical figures of the 21st century" and "an inspiration to all future generations." Chief Judge Stephen McNamee, U.S. District Court, District of Arizona.

"[Justice O'Connor] likes to hear people's points of view. I never felt I had to agree with her to conform to her view." Professor Stuart Banner, professor of law at UCLA who clerked for O'Connor.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from West Virginia is recognized.

COMPLIMENTING SENATOR TED STEVENS

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I always enjoy listening to my friend TED STEVENS. Ours is a long friendship, and it will be as long as the days we both live. He is going to go fishing. He loves to fish. He loves to go back to his State, which he so ably represents, and which has accorded him the great title of "Alaska's Son of the 20th Century." Indeed, he is one who is entitled to that kind of recognition and respect.

THE FOURTH OF JULY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, many Americans will soon enjoy a long 3-day weekend, courtesy of the Fourth of July, which this year falls on a Monday.

The Fourth of July is a wonderful time. Summer's heat has not yet worn us down. School has not been out so long that the days have begun to drag for the younger set—or for their parents. We are not tired of the season or of each other. The growth of the grass has slowed, so that weekends are not spent on mowing and yard work, but leaves some time for picnics and pools. Gardens are beginning to pour forth their bounty, but not yet in such abundance that we have become desperate to unload mounds of zucchini and tomatoes. Wild blackberries. I remember when I was a boy, reaching around the shed and picking off a few wild blackberries and having the color of the blackberries stain my lips. Wild blackberries are ripening along the edges of fields and the heavy perfume of honeysuckle vines makes rural walks a feast—a feast—for the senses. The Fourth of July is a perfect time to glory in the gentle bounty of our Nation and of our Nation's families. Independence Day, together with Thanksgiving and Christmas, remains a uniquely family-oriented celebration. When Americans reflect on our freedom, our security, our liberties, our many blessings, we like to do it among our closest friends and family.

Fourth of July parades—oh man, man, man, they will bring out the crowds along community main streets, big towns, little towns, middle-size towns. Small hands—I can just see them, can't you?—small hands, little hands will clutch miniature flags as firetrucks roll past in all of their shining glory. Floats made by church groups, scout troops, and 4-H clubs will compete, each hoping to demonstrate the greatest patriotism.

After the parades, there will be family picnics and barbecues that host their own friendly competition as family cooks show off their talents at the grill or on tables laden with traditional favorites such as creamy macaroni and potato salad, slow-cooked baked beans—oh, how good they taste—deviled eggs, and chocolate cake.

The menu is not as important, however, as the feeling of family solidarity as everyone settles in after a splendid meal to watch the cascading displays of fireworks set off in the growing dusk. With the exception of some small children and family pets, such as my little dog, Trouble, that howl at the thunderous booms and high-pitched squeals of some fireworks, the general response to the evening's finale is usually a unanimous "oooh" after each bloom of sparks.

Even the earliest Independence Day celebrations were marked by similar displays of patriotism, often including the discharge of cannons, one for each State in the Union, and toasts, also one for each State in the Union.

On July 3, 1776, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail and said:

Yesterday the greatest question was decided which ever was debated in America; and a greater perhaps never was, nor will be, decided among men. A resolution was passed without one dissenting colony, that those United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States.

That resolution was on separation from England. It was not until July 4 that the Declaration of Independence—the Declaration of Independence, there it is with my wife Erma's name on the front of the leather cover. It contains the Constitution, the Articles of Confederation, yes, and the Declaration of Independence, and some other historic documents.

The Declaration of Independence was voted upon by the Continental Congress. Adams felt that the July 2 date was the one that would be marked by celebration, but the physical presence of the declaration document, along with its stirring rhetoric, allowed it to easily usurp the separation vote tally as the turning point in history.

Eighty copies of the original declaration were printed that same night, July 4, for distribution among the rebellious colonies.

At the very first Independence Day celebrations, those spontaneous ones that followed in the days and weeks after the Declaration of Independence was adopted and distributed, the Declaration of Independence was itself a central part of the festivity, read aloud to the crowds gathered at capitols, courthouses, and public places around the newly declared nation. In New York, the Declaration of Independence was read at the head of each brigade of the Continental Army posted around the city, to loud hurrahs—loud hurrahs.

Today, as proud inhabitants of a powerful and wealthy nation, it can be difficult to recall that in 1776, the celebrations of independence must be seen as