

organization, most of which turns out to have been absolutely wrong. Dead wrong. Yet we are talking about preemptive strikes with nuclear weapons. I don't understand it.

If I might, by consent, I will show something from my desk. Mr. President, I ask I be permitted to show this. It is a portion of a wing strut from a Soviet Backfire bomber.

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

Mr. DORGAN. Why do I have this in my desk? We did not shoot this bomber down. We sawed the wing off this bomber, paid for with American taxpayers' money. Does anyone know why? Because of arms control agreements by which we reduced the number of nuclear weapons and the number of nuclear delivery systems—and that includes missiles, bombers and submarines. So I have in the Senate a piece of a wing from a Soviet bomber that used to carry nuclear weapons that would threaten this country.

How did that happen? Because Senators Nunn and LUGAR and others, along with President Clinton, working on arms control agreements, had the foresight to put together a program by which we reached agreements by which we reduce the number of nuclear weapons and reduce the number of carriers of those nuclear weapons. So I have part of a wing strut from a Backfire bomber.

I also have ground-up copper wire from a Soviet submarine that used to carry nuclear tipped missiles aimed at this country.

That is our job. Our job is to reduce the nuclear threat. Not use the threat of nuclear weapons against other countries or talk about conditions under which we would use the nuclear weapons in a preemptive strike. This is nuts.

We will start debating this once again in the Senate. We have these folks, and we have plenty of them here, who want to build new nuclear weapons. They want to start testing the ones we have. We do not need to test nuclear weapons. We know they work. And they want to build new nuclear weapons, Earth-penetrator bunker busters. It is exactly the wrong thing for this country to do.

HURRICANE KATRINA

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, over the past few days, as we have talked about the heartbreak of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina, I have noticed that certain firms have been hired now to go in and provide assistance. One of the firms is the Halliburton Corporation. I have held hearings in the policy committee about this company, because there have been numerous serious allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse involving it, and yet none of the Senate's authorizing committees will investigate it.

Every time you talk about Halliburton someone says, you are criti-

cizing the Vice President because he used to be president of Halliburton.

Well, this has nothing to do with the Vice President. It has to do with the American taxpayers getting bilked by a company that is overbilling. I will not go through the whole list of scandals. We have had hearing after hearing to explore them, because the authorizing committees will not. But this is a company that was paid to feed 42,000 soldiers in Iraq; yet they were only feeding 14,000. That means they are overbilling by 28,000 meals a day. And that is just the tip of the iceberg. It is unbelievable the amount of waste, fraud, and abuse that is going on.

And now, when it comes to dealing with Katrina, no-bid contracts, once again, win Katrina work. And we hear that Halliburton is now getting millions of dollars to do hurricane related work. I wonder who is minding the store? And when will someone start to care?

Incidentally, a woman by the name of Bunnatine Greenhouse was demoted last week in the Pentagon. She was the highest ranking civilian ever in the Corps of Engineers. She rose to that position, getting outstanding reviews all along the way. And then she spoke up. In the good old boy network, when they wanted to award no-bid contracts to Halliburton in Iraq, she spoke up. All of a sudden she gets demoted. She spoke up because she said what was going on was scandalous. The American taxpayer takes a bath as a result of all of this.

Let me tell you what she has told the Congress. Bunnatine Greenhouse, the highest ranking civilian employee in the Corps of Engineers, who refused to sign the no-bid contracts that went under a buddy system to Halliburton in Iraq, says:

I can unequivocally state that the abuse related to the contracts awarded to KBR [Halliburton] represents the most blatant and improper contract abuse I have witnessed during the course of my professional career.

For blowing the whistle, she gets demoted. This is a woman who has had outstanding reviews by everyone along the way.

We have heard from people who worked for Halliburton who testified that the managers of this company said, When U.S. Government auditors come, do not dare speak to them. If you do, one of two things will happen. You will be fired or we will send you to the hot spots where there is active fighting in Iraq.

These are people who testified that they are providing food service to American soldiers and routinely serve food, the date stamp of which is expired, and they are told by Halliburton managers, feed it to them anyway.

I hope some day, some way, the people in Congress who have the capability to issue subpoenas and hold oversight hearings will finally start doing their job. We ought not go back to the same well for the reconstruction with re-

spect to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina. The victims of that hurricane need help. They need good help. The American taxpayer shouldn't be taking a bath while that help is given.

I yield the floor.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Will the Senator yield?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time of the Senator is expired.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I ask unanimous consent for 2 minutes for the Senator.

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

Ms. LANDRIEU. If the Senator will yield, I caught the tail end of the Senator's comments about Halliburton. Of course, we have people who work in Louisiana for Halliburton, but I most certainly understand the Senator's concern if there are these accusations against Halliburton in Iraq. We want to be very careful with our reconstruction dollars right here at home, that companies we ask to do work are doing good work, being accountable to the taxpayers.

As the Senator knows, while it may be hard to track some of this across the ocean, it will be easier when it is in the United States. I don't know if the Senator would have any suggestions. Are there other companies that can do some work along the lines of reconstruction other than this one company? Does the Senator know?

Mr. DORGAN. In response to the Senator from Louisiana, I understand in circumstances such as this, we will not go out and get bids and ask for 30 days. We want people in the field working quickly. But the fact is we have a lot of great companies out there in this country with a great ability to mobilize and move quickly. My only point is, I want the victims of this hurricane to receive help now, immediately. I want the American taxpayer to find that help was delivered effectively and efficiently. I don't want it running through people's hands into people's pockets where it shouldn't go.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I hope, Mr. President, as we lay out the rebuilding efforts for the Gulf Coast region and the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, we can do better than what the Senator has spoken about.

On that subject, just for the record, I think maybe the Senator from Louisiana, Mr. VITTER, and I would like to submit for the RECORD a list of Louisiana-Mississippi-based contractors that can do great work in the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast region. We understand that Halliburton is a Texas company. We are happy for our Texas counterparts. As I said, many people in Louisiana work for Halliburton. I think we have several thousand people who do. But I want this Senate to know—Senators on both sides of the aisle—we have a lot of Louisiana and Mississippi contractors who can build houses, et cetera.