

Baker-Hamilton principles, updated by the lessons and successes of General Petraeus. If the 10 members of the Iraq Study Group, the Baker-Hamilton group, over 9 months could agree unanimously on where we go from here in Iraq, surely 50 or 60 or 70 of us can agree on where we go from here in Iraq.

I look forward to the President's report. I look forward to General Petraeus's recommendations. He has demonstrated that he is an exceptional leader. We Tennesseans have a special pride in him because of his leadership of the 101st Airborne Division. But once General Petraeus has made those recommendations, I hope the President takes a page from a former President of this country whom President Bush admires, Harry Truman.

In 1947, Harry Truman found himself in about the same shape President Bush finds himself today. Americans were tired of war, even though in that case we had won it. The President's poll numbers were very low. The President had lost both Houses of Congress in the preceding election. The President had an urgent overseas mission that he hoped our country would adopt. According to David McCullough, the biographer of President Truman, Truman said if he sent a plan with his name on it up there to the Senate and the House, it would quiver a couple of times and die. So he called in General George C. Marshall who was his Secretary of State, and he called in Dean Acheson. He said: Let's call it the Marshall plan and go up to Arthur Vandenberg, the leader of the opposition in the Senate, and try to persuade him it is the right thing to do.

We got the Marshall plan, and Truman today is remembered as a near great President. I am certain that President Bush believes as firmly in his heart that finishing the job in Iraq is as essential today as President Truman believed the Marshall plan was essential in 1947. But President Bush, I hope, will also remember the lesson of Harry Truman and borrow the recommendations and the prestige of the Baker-Hamilton group and borrow the lessons and successes of a distinguished general—in this case General Petraeus—and give us a plan that is a genuinely new strategy, one that can attract significant support on that side of the aisle as well as this, one that, like my grandfather's big round table with the locomotive, can take our country and put it on a different track in Iraq that will assure us of that and that will cause us to change our mission for our troops from combat to supporting, equipping, and training, province by province, as soon as we honorably can.

If it does, as I said earlier, I believe we will see about half our troops come home within a year or two. The principles also include a long-term but steadily diminishing presence in Iraq to fight counterterrorism and a stepped-up effort for diplomatic and political efforts especially in the region. But if the President were to do

this, and if the Democratic leadership would make room for consensus in this body, we could end this spectacle of the U.S. Congress lecturing Baghdad for being in a political stalemate when we are in one ourselves. We can speak with a single voice. We are elected to be able to do so. Our troops deserve it. The enemy needs to hear it.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I am loath to close the proceedings on this very special day when such a special milestone has been achieved by a very special man, the senior Senator from Massachusetts, whom I am privileged to count as a colleague. But toil we must.

So, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RETIREMENT OF SENATOR JOHN WARNER

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the President's statement in relation to the retirement of Senator JOHN WARNER be printed in the RECORD.

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

PRESIDENT BUSH CONGRATULATES JOHN WARNER ON SENATE CAREER

John Warner is one of the most dedicated Senators in American history. Five Presidents have relied on his steady judgment, wise counsel, and candid advice. With Senator Warner's retirement, the Senate will lose one of its most independent and widely-respected voices and the Commonwealth of Virginia will lose one of its fiercest advocates.

John Warner has served our country in many roles throughout his distinguished career, always putting the American people's needs first. He enlisted in the Navy shortly before his 18th birthday and chose to interrupt his law studies to commence a second tour of active military duty as an officer in the Marine Corps, volunteering for duty in Korea. He went on to practice law, serve as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, and serve as Secretary of the Navy before his election to the Senate. Our Military had no greater friend than Senator Warner during his service as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Forces.

I look forward to working with Senator Warner in the coming months as we assess the situation in Iraq and pursue policies to keep our country safe.

John Warner is a true statesman. Laura and I wish Senator Warner, his wife Jeanne, and the rest of his family all the best.

OUR ARMED FORCES

HONORING CORPORAL WILLARD M. POWELL

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, today, with a heavy heart, I honor the life of the brave Army corporal from Evansville, IN. Willard M. Powell, 21 years old, died on August 16, 2007, in Balad, Iraq, from injuries sustained during combat operations in Taramiyah, Iraq. With an optimistic future before him, Will risked everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

Will's ambition was to become a marine, and he joined the Army at the age of 19 after graduating from Reitz High School. He passionately felt the call to duty as he left for basic training, looking forward to his long-anticipated career in the military. Will was deployed to Iraq April 2007, where he worked diligently in his infantry unit, awaiting his promotion to corporal. It was during his assignment to the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division Strykers from Fort Lewis, WA, that he was killed while serving his country.

Today, I join Will's family and friends in mourning his death. Will was a loving son to his mother and stepfather, Sunny-Kay and Mark Powell, and to his father and stepmother, Willard and Linda Kerchief. He will be greatly missed by his grandparents, Barbara Poodry, Gloria, and Tim Thibodeau, Larry and Patti Powell, and Raymond Kerchief and his great-grandmother Marcetis "Cedi" Milton.

In Evansville, Will was an active member of the First Christian Church, where he attended Bible study classes with friends and fellow church-goers. Will bonded with the other members of the church's youth group and built important friendships. He was passionate about sports and a skilled athlete himself, qualifying for the Junior Olympics in bowling. Those who knew him best say he taught them the meaning of true friendship and possessed an extraordinary pride in his service to our country.

Today and always, Will will be remembered by family members, friends, and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero, and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Will, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Will's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we