

Apparently START II is being held hostage in a dispute over the consolidation of our foreign affairs agencies. I hope this is not the case.

Even worse, some groups are now calling to add certain conditions for ratifying START II. These conditions have all been discussed in bills that have now passed the Senate, and should not be attached to the ratification of a treaty. The Senate can not change START II, either we ratify it or not. Attaching political conditions on a treaty is a dangerous practice and should be avoided on procedural considerations.

Mr. President, START II should be ratified for many reasons. First, START II destroys weapons. This reduces the risk of an accidental launch. Second, every Russian weapon destroyed is a weapon we don't need to defend against. The following table shows the numbers and kinds of ICBMs that can be eliminated under START II.

I ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

The table follows:

INTERNATIONAL BALLISTIC MISSILES—ELIMINATED UNDER START II

Delivery system	Launchers	Warheads
SS-18	188	1,880
SS-19	170	1,020
SS-24	46	460
SLBM's		2,600
Totals	304	3,960

¹ Some SS-19's may be converted to carry only a single warhead in order to offset the cost of developing a new launcher.

² Based on limit of 1,750 submarine launched ballistic missiles. The current Russian arsenal of SLBM's is estimated at 2,350.

Source: "Bulletin of Atomic Scientists," Nuclear Notebook, September/October 1995.

Mr. HARKIN. Additionally, destroying weapons saves taxpayers' money. Just look at the current Senate Defense authorization bill. As my friend from New Mexico pointed out in the report to the Defense Authorization Act, the act "proposes a nuclear weapons manufacturing complex sized to meet a need of a hedge stockpile far above the active START II stockpile of 3500 weapons." The total cost of producing our nuclear weapons to date is about \$4 trillion. Compare that with our \$5 trillion national debt. In 1995 alone, \$12.4 billion was spent to build, operate and maintain strategic nuclear weapons. If we ratify START II we can give taxpayers the double peace dividend of higher security at lower cost.

Even if START II were fully implemented, we would have more than 3,000 deployed strategic missiles—500 warheads on missiles in silos, 1,680 warheads on submarine-launched missiles, and 1,320 on airplanes. Furthermore, an additional 4,000 nuclear weapons would remain in our stockpile. Surely, this will be more than enough atomic fire power to counter any conceivable threat to the United States.

Mr. President, Russia and other former Soviet Republics are more open than ever before. We have all seen the unprecedented pictures on television of Russian missiles and airplanes being

destroyed. This new openness will make START II even more verifiable than START I. With Russian elections this month and our own presidential election season just starting, we must act now to keep the this olive branch from withering.

In conclusion, Mr. President, we need to ratify START II quickly. It is not in the national interest to play politics over the ratification of any treaty. Russian President Yeltsin is ill and needs quick American ratification of START II to help get the Russian Parliament to ratify it. We need the security of fewer Russian warheads now. We need to stop spending so much money making our nuclear weapons now. We can use the warheads we have now to defend America. We need to ratify START II now.●

THE PASSING OF THOMAS L. WASHINGTON

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, it is with great, personal sadness that I note the passing this Tuesday, December 5 of Thomas L. Washington. Tom was a personal friend, a valued supporter, a concerned husband and father, and a dedicated leader in his community.

Tom was an avid and renowned sportsman. He exemplified all that is good about the sportsman: he was hardy and self-reliant; he also was frugal with and respectful of our great outdoors. Tom loved Michigan's wetlands and forests. He spent time in them, enjoying them and working to preserve them.

Because he loved the outdoors, Tom founded and led the Michigan United Conservation Clubs. Indeed, he built that organization into the largest single State conservancy in the Nation.

Tom was a strong, committed advocate for preserving Michigan's outdoors, and also the great outdoors of America and beyond, for all to enjoy.

He served on the board of directors of Safari Club International and the National Wildlife Federation. True sportsman that he was, he was as concerned to preserve the environment for future generations as to enjoy it for himself.

Thus he helped draft legislation creating the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. This fund purchases prime recreational lands for public use with royalties from oil, gas, and mineral production on State lands. In 1976 Tom was appointed a charter member of the board that administers the fund. He served on the board until his death, including several terms as chairman.

He served on a number of Michigan State committees, including the committee that wrote administrative rules for the Michigan Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act, which is central to the State's land-use program.

Tom also served on the Governor's Interim Committee on Environmental Education, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Endangered Spe-

cies Committee, and the Governor's Interim Committee on Environmental Education. And he served as vice chairman of the Governor's Michigan Land Inventory Committee.

He was a recipient of the American Motors Conservation Award, Safari Club International's Chairman's Award, and the Miles D. Pirnie Award for his leadership in preserving wetlands and wetlands wildlife.

Part of the reason for Tom's care for the environment no doubt stemmed from the fact that he was a family man. He cared about his wife and children and wanted to pass on to them the same rights and the same opportunities that he enjoyed.

A hunter concerned to protect all our rights, he also fought for the second amendment.

Tom was elected president of NRA's board of directors in 1994 and reelected in 1995. First elected to the board of directors in 1985, Tom served as second and then first vice president prior to being elected president.

Tom worked for responsible use of our rights, working with training and informational programs along with second amendment defense.

He was a fine man, whom I personally shall miss. I extend my condolences to the Washington family.●

RATIFY THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, the Chemical Weapons Convention [CWC] is a watershed agreement that will eliminate an entire class of weapons of mass destruction. Upon ratification, the CWC calls for the complete elimination of all chemical weapons within 10 years.

This landmark treaty is perhaps the most comprehensive arms control agreement ever signed. To begin with, the Chemical Weapons Convention requires all signatories to begin destruction of their chemical weapons stockpiles within 1 year of ratification, and to complete this destruction within 10 years. In addition, the CWC prohibits the production, use and distribution of this class of weapons, and provides an intrusive international monitoring organization in order to prevent the development of these weapons.

This verification allows not only for the inspection of "declared" sites, but also permits international inspectors access to any suspected undeclared facilities. Signatories do not have the right of refusal to deter inspection. Should a member nation request a "challenge inspection" of a suspected chemical facility, the nation called into question must permit the inspectors to enter the country within 12 hours. Within another 12 hours, the inspectors must have been allowed entry into the suspected warehouse. It is very unlikely that every trace of the banned chemicals could be eliminated within 24 hours.