

rules it sets for everyone else. More recently, he spearheaded the overhaul of the federal government procurement system, enabling the government to buy products faster, and save money at the same time.

In 1974, the year he was elected to the Senate, JOHN GLENN carried all 88 counties in Ohio. In 1980, he was re-elected with the largest margin in his state's history. The last time he ran, in 1992, he became the first Ohio Senator ever to win 4 terms.

As I said, I'm sure he would have been re-elected had he chosen to run again. But, as we all know, he has other plans.

For 36 years, JOHN GLENN has wanted to go back into space. On October 29, he will finally get his chance. At 77 years old, he will become the oldest human being ever to orbit the earth—by 16 years.

Many of us will be in Houston to see JOHN and his *Discovery* crew mates blast off. If history is any indication, I suspect we will be wide-eyed once again.

In closing, let me say, Godspeed, JOHN GLENN and DALE BUMPERS, WENDELL FORD, DIRK KEMPTHORNE and DAN COATS. You have served this Senate well. You are all "Senators' Senators," and we will miss you dearly.

KOSOVO

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, the closing hours of the 105th Congress are fast approaching. I could not let this Congress end without coming to the Senate floor to address the tragedy in Kosovo. It is a human crisis of immense proportion, and it poses an increasing threat to the United States and the global community.

The last several years have been marked by Yugoslavian President Milosevic's steady escalation of political repression and violence against the people of Kosovo. Acting at Milosevic's behest, Yugoslav forces have driven nearly 400,000 Kosovar Albanians from their homes. Fourteen thousand homes and 400 villages have been razed. Over 700 Kosovar Albanian men, women, and children have been killed.

Within the last several weeks our newspapers have been filled with accounts of atrocities committed by Milosevic's units against scores of unarmed civilians. Among the list of crimes documented by international observers are politically motivated killings; massacres of women, children and elderly persons; torture; arbitrary arrest; detention without cause; denial of fair, public trial; and destruction of private homes.

Further exacerbating this man-made crisis is the fact that winter is fast ap-

proaching, placing at peril the health and well being of tens of thousands of displaced persons who have managed to survive Milosevic's cruelties.

After watching this recent string of atrocities, the international community was compelled to respond. On September 23, the United Nations Security Council adopted a resolution condemning the excessive use of force by Milosevic's thugs and demanding that he cease military actions against civilians, withdraw his security units, facilitate the safe return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes, permit unimpeded access of humanitarian organizations to the people of Kosovo, and engage in meaningful negotiations on Kosovo's final status.

Diplomacy has been and should continue to be a major component of our response to this situation. But we must also acknowledge reality. The reality is that meaningful negotiations toward a settlement of Kosovo's status cannot take place in the current environment. Furthermore, words alone have never been enough to slow Milosevic and his henchmen. This was demonstrated to the world all too painfully in Bosnia. Despite numerous appeals from the international community to end his support for the war in Bosnia, Milosevic repeatedly turned a deaf ear, and the hostilities continued unabated.

It was only after NATO carried out a series of airstrikes against military forces supported by Milosevic that a cease-fire became possible.

The circumstances appear to be similar in Kosovo. And, if Milosevic fails to fully and immediately comply with the terms of the U.N. resolution, I believe the time has come for NATO to respond similarly.

The United States and our NATO allies must be prepared to carry out airstrikes against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia if such action is determined to be the only means of enforcing the U.N. resolution.

I say this for three reasons. First and foremost, continued repression, violence, and instability in Kosovo directly threaten the national security interests of the United States. Kosovo is a tinderbox in the heart of one of the most unstable and critical regions of the world. Balkan history has clearly demonstrated that a spark in this region can rapidly spread into a blaze that engulfs the world. We have already seen refugee outflows into Albania and Macedonia. Two NATO allies, Greece and Turkey, with their competing regional interests, could easily and quickly get enmeshed in this crisis if it continues and widens.

Second, the credibility of NATO, still our most important alliance, hangs in

the balance. For nearly 50 years, NATO has been the organization most responsible for keeping the peace in Europe. NATO had great success in the years after World War II and the Cold War. Its post-Cold War utility was proven earlier this decade in Bosnia. What NATO does in Kosovo will go a long way toward determining this crucial alliance's role in the 21st century. A strong, unified NATO is still the best insurance policy we have against large-scale conflict in Europe.

Third, as the west's history with Milosevic in Bosnia proves, if words are to have the desired effect on his behavior, they must be backed up with a credible threat to use force. Indeed, our recent experience in Kosovo itself bears this out. In the past week or two, Milosevic has launched an effort to convince the world that he is fully complying with the requirements of the September 23 U.N. resolution. Not surprisingly, this behavior occurred precisely as the specter of NATO military action began to loom over him. In fact, there may only be one way to achieve peace in Kosovo without the use of force. NATO must demonstrate to Milosevic that it is prepared to use force to compel his compliance. This is precisely the policy toward which this Administration and our NATO allies appear to be moving.

Mr. President, in offering my endorsement for this approach, let me be clear. If air operations and missile strikes against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are necessary to force Milosevic to the negotiating table, the United States and our NATO allies should demonstrate that we are prepared to pursue that option. Certainly we should not give the Administration a blank check, but we must accept our responsibility as a world leader and acknowledge that stronger measures may be required. The Administration should continue to consult closely with Congress every step of the way as events unfold.

Milosevic's atrocities have gone on too long. It's time for the United States to defend its national interests and help restore peace to this troubled region. It's time for the world to say no to the torture and slaughter of innocent civilians in Kosovo.

RECESS UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 11 a.m., October 13, 1998.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:15 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, October 13, 1998, at 11 a.m.