

man. He was doing his duty. He was serving his country. We admire very much his service, and we deeply respect his sacrifice.

My colleague from North Dakota would also like to comment. We would appreciate that.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, let me just say, Mr. President, I appreciate the fact that the Senator has raised this issue. It is appropriate that we acknowledge the service of our military men and women who are serving all over the world, more often than we realize, in very dangerous situations, and that we recognize those who lost their lives—in this instance, sailors on the U.S.S. *Cole*.

I, too, have a personal feeling about this. I would like to make some comments on it myself. Before I do that, I yield to Senator DORGAN from North Dakota for his remarks.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader. This was obviously a senseless act of terrorism. Acts of terrorism are, in most cases, perpetrated by cowards who want to inflict terrible mayhem on especially those from our country, but others around the world as well. Yesterday, when we learned the news that the U.S.S. *Cole* had been attacked, all of us were deeply saddened. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of the families of those who are now known dead and those who are presumed dead or missing.

As Senator CONRAD indicated, we have just learned from the U.S. Navy this morning that a young man named Kevin Rux from Portland, ND, is among those missing and presumed dead, according to the U.S. Navy. I want to add my voice to my colleagues' comments that my thoughts and prayers go out to his family. We are thinking of them and praying for them today. We feel the same about all of those who have been the victims of this attack. It tells us, once again, that this is a difficult and in some cases troubled world, and those who wear the uniform of this country in all parts of this globe, who stand for peace, do so at some risk to themselves and on behalf of a grateful Nation.

Again, I want to simply say we are thinking of the Rux family and all of the other families whose loved ones have become victims of this cowardly terrorist attack. I say, as well, that this country has said to its President and Members of Congress that those responsible for this attack must be found and brought to justice for it.

I yield the floor.

ORDER FOR RECORD TO REMAIN OPEN

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the RECORD remain open today until 1 p.m. for the introduction of statements by Members.

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

OUTSTANDING MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR SOPHISTICATED SHIPS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the U.S.S. *Cole* was built in my hometown of Pascagoula, MS. I have been on it. I have visited with the sailors, the crew, and officers on many of these ships—destroyers, cruisers, and LHDs—that are built there. It is always a thrilling experience to see the enthusiasm of these young men and women and the caliber of the young men and women who serve our country, and also the tremendous sophistication of these ships. These ships are the most sophisticated in the history of the world, with an incredible array of radar and weapons systems.

These ships can fire at 120 different targets simultaneously, using missiles and Gatling guns. They are incredible vessels. They are referred to as "aegis class" destroyers. They have a tremendous shield where they can track and identify targets or enemy activities. But we see, once again, no matter how big, how sophisticated, or how capable they are in destroying enemy ships or aircraft, they are still vulnerable to a suicide attack by two men on a small rubber vessel.

I think it is a very sobering thing that we are learning from this experience. You can be in a marine barracks

somewhere, in a hotel, in a public building, or on a sophisticated ship, and you are still vulnerable to this kind of attack. This is clearly an unjustified, heinous, indescribable act that has taken place, and I know that our Government will act very aggressively to protect and provide aid to those who are injured and work with the families who are certainly going through a period of grieving now. It will also try to identify exactly who did this, who gave the order, and be prepared to take swift and very strong action against those who did it.

I have no doubt that our Government will work in unity to accomplish that.

In addition to that, I have a list before me which is not yet ready for release, and I would not want to do it before it has been properly released. But there are at least 7 identified as dead now and another 10, at least, missing potentially, and likely now 17 sailors on that ship who lost their lives.

One of those was Ens. Andrew Triplett of Macon, MS. I have before me his record of service, and I take note that this is a young man who was very forward leaning and had advanced very quickly through the ranks to reach the position of ensign.

To his entire family, and particularly his mother, Savanna Triplett of Shuqualak, MS, I extend my sympathy and prayers and also the grateful appreciation of our Nation.

I know that Americans all over the world will be touched by what we have seen happen and will be thinking of the family and praying for them in this difficult time.

RECESS UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2000

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:07 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, October 17, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.