

PETE DORN'S RETIREMENT FROM
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTEL-
LIGENCE

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, it is a personal privilege for me to rise today to recognize the contributions and many accomplishments of Mr. Peter Dorn, a valued and long time professional staff member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Pete will be leaving our staff this month after 33 years of dedicated service to our Nation.

Pete Dorn is the epitome of the professional staffer and he has served the Senate and the Intelligence Committee in an outstanding exemplary manner since he joined the committee's staff in 1991. From advising, if not educating Members, as their professional liaison to drafting legislation or conducting special investigations and projects to implementing and improving the intelligence budget, he and his work will be sorely missed.

Pete Dorn's service to our country is quite a pedigree. In 1971, following his graduation from the State University of New York, Pete began serving his country as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. He spent 6 years in the infantry and special operations arena before transferring to Marine Corps Intelligence. It was a perfect military occupational and operational fit. For the rest of his Marine career, he honed his skills as an intelligence analyst and staff officer serving the Pacific Joint Intelligence Center, the Overseas Military Air Groups, the Commander of the Pacific Fleet, Headquarters, Marine Corps and the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Program staff.

He could not have been better prepared to continue his service in intelligence work and he did so as he continued his career in the White House as a budget and legislative analyst at the Office of National Drug Control Policy. He then served as program and budget analyst at the Director of Central Intelligence's Crime and Counter-narcotics Center.

In 1991, Pete's budgeting, intelligence and military experience made him a prime candidate for a professional staff position on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. He has served us as a budget monitor and as a staff liaison to Senator RICHARD SHELBY and to myself and currently, Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS. Pete also serves the committee as staff director for research and analysis.

As in the case of many staff members and for that matter, Senators and Members of Congress as well, the laundry list of positions and titles does not tell the real story. The real story regarding Pete Dorn is that he is truly a patriot, has made a real difference in intelligence work, budgeting and legislation and as a consequence helped make our country a safer Nation. After 9/11, it was Pete Dorn who helped me to realize that although the Intelligence Community possessed great collection assets, we had a long way to go in

terms of our analytical capability. It is our analytical product that is then turned over to the decision makers that contained mixed and delayed reporting. It has been my goal as chairman to see that this is changed. In this regard Pete Dorn has been my adviser. Personally, he has made a difference in my life and how I look at public service. He believes the role of intelligence is absolutely crucial to our national security, and when he sees things that should be corrected or a miscarriage of justice or something awry in his family—i.e., the intelligence community—he will not stop until he does everything possible to set things right.

The case of our "captured and whereabouts unknown" gulf war Navy pilot, CAPT Scott Speicher, is a classic example. We will not rest until the fate of this pilot is known. The person who did not rest and who pressed for better intelligence and honest answers was Pete Dorn—not only for Scott Speicher and his family but for every warfighter who wears the uniform.

We now have legislation that changes the way we handle our prisoners of war and those missing in action. The credit for that legislation goes to Pete Dorn.

There are many other examples I could outline, some classified and some not. Simply said, Pete Dorn's perseverance and commitment to our country and fellowman has been remarkable. Thank you, Pete, for putting up with and educating me, from a new member of the Senate Intelligence Committee to my current position as chairman. Thank you for your friendship and advice.

Vice Chairman ROCKEFELLER and the members of the Intelligence Committee, both past and present, who have enjoyed and benefited from their association with Pete extend their personal thanks for his exceptional dedication, his loyalty, his integrity, and his distinguished service. We wish all the best to Pete and his wife Kathleen, and to the entire Dorn family.

So, thanks again, Pete. And, from one marine to another, well done, and Semper Fi.

I yield the remainder of my time, Madam President.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MURKOWSKI). Who yields time?

Mr. COLEMAN. Madam President, how much time do we have?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. There remain 23 minutes 47 seconds.

The Senator from Minnesota.

JOBS

Mr. COLEMAN. Madam President, I wish to talk about jobs. I am a former mayor. As mayor, I learned a long time ago that the best welfare program is a job; the best housing program is a job; access to health care comes through a job. With jobs and with work, there is a sense of dignity and a sense of worth.

People would often ask me as a mayor, What are you doing for kids? My response would be, One of the best

things I could do for kids was to make sure that mom and dad had a job. Jobs are fundamentally important.

The reality is that the American economy over the last few years has taken some very big hits. A lot of people have found themselves out of work. When you are out of work, the anxiety level rises, the sense of security in your family is challenged. It hurts, and it hurts a lot. Certainly the recession that began before President Bush was elected—the recession began just as he took office—had an impact on jobs. America took that terrible blow of terrorism on September 11, which shook the foundations of the economy. You can't have economic security without national security; People are in fear. There was a great loss to the economic activity, certainly in New York and Washington and throughout this country. The impact of 9/11 cannot be underestimated.

On top of that, we faced corporate America acting in a way that upset a lot of us, as it should have. Scandals within Enron and WorldCom undermined the trust, undermined the confidence that the average American had in our economic system, in the market. The stock market, by the way, I don't think is a valuer of the economy; it is an indicator of confidence in the economy or lack thereof.

The fact is, Americans were not very confident when they looked at the corporate greed and the excess and the manipulation and a few folks at the top making money and folks at the bottom being hurt. That is a bad thing.

In this Congress, before I got here, we acted on that. I praise the folks who stepped forward. But the reality was a great undermining of confidence in the economy and the economy suffered and Americans suffered.

Then this President stepped forward and said the way to change what has happened in the economy is to cut taxes. Goodness gracious, there were a lot of folks—my colleagues on the other side, they were just outraged. Cutting taxes, how can you do that? How can you cut taxes at a time of economic need? How can you cut taxes at a time the economy is suffering? It will just plunge us further into debt.

The President's commonsense perspective, and one that I share, is that the things we do should put money in the pockets of moms and dads. Then they spend that money. If they spend that money on a good or on a service, the person who is producing that good or providing that service has a job. So by cutting taxes, having moms and dads spend money, is better than the Government spending money. It is better than creating another program.

This President thought we had to do those things to incur business investment. The last tax cut we passed—Madam President, I was sitting in that chair when the budget was passed, when we first got in office this year. We passed it by a 50-to-50 vote, and the Vice President had to come and step

forward. We passed that tax cut and in that we provided things such as bonus depreciation, providing incentives for business to make expenditures. When they make expenditures and capital expenditures, they are going to grow jobs.

There were many who said, How can you cut taxes at a time when we are in economic distress? The reality is, we do it because that is the way you grow jobs, and we are seeing that. We are seeing it in the data that is coming out. I will talk a little bit about that. But I want to step back and say the reason I am so passionate about this is not because it is part of a political party's platform, not because it is an ideological statement; it is because I have seen it work.

I was mayor of a capital city. I got elected in 1993. When I was elected, the city was economically dying. It was not doing well. One of the ways to value that is the value of taxable property. In downtown St. Paul, it was over \$700 million. When I got elected to office in 1993, took office in 1994, the value of taxable property was \$300 million. It had lost half the value of property. I realized we had to do those things to grow jobs, so what did we do?

We kept the lid on taxes. I made a commitment, saying we were not going to raise taxes in the city of St. Paul. You know, we didn't raise taxes in the 8 years I was in office—zero increase in the tax levee. We also cut three-quarters of the licenses to do business.

There were those who were saying, You are giving these benefits to business. Why are you doing that? I did it because I believed if you did those things that keep a lid on taxes, you would encourage investment. I believed if you kept a lid on those things that were increasing the cost of doing business, you would grow investment.

By the time I left office there were 18,000 more jobs in my city. The fact is, by cutting taxes, by stimulating those things that generate investment, you grow jobs.

There may be folks who argue about that, but it is like the economist I described. Economists, sometimes, are those folks who see something working in reality and they tell you why it can't work in theory.

Cutting taxes works in reality. You cut taxes, it works. My colleague, the Senator from Idaho, quietly mouths: "You know, it works in theory, too." And it does. I have seen it work in reality. This is not about theory or ideology for me. This is not imagining what could be or should be or might be. This is about what is.

The reality is we are seeing it today. We are seeing us coming out of that long slide—not fast enough for me; We have to grow jobs at a faster rate. But we see us coming out of the slide. We see it in the data coming out. Consumption in the third quarter topped 12 percent at an annual rate, translating to 6 percent growth in gross domestic product in the last quarter. You have

to contrast that with the first quarter of 2003. The growth was 1.4 percent. Tax cuts are making a difference. Tax cuts are taking hold. Jobs are growing. Jobless claims continue to fall to their lowest level since last February. Production in our plants and factories grew in the third quarter at a 3.5 percent annual rate. Contrast that to the negative growth in industrial production in the second quarter at 3.2 percent.

Homebuilders started building over 1.9 million new homes on an annual basis, according to the last report. Inflation is well under control at an annual rate of 2.3 percent. I believe that is about a 37-year low.

Finally, we are getting consumer confidence. That is what it is about. No one jumps a sinking ship. No one invests in something they think will fail. On the other hand, if they have a sense there is hope and optimism, people invest. It is about hope and optimism.

That is what tax cuts have done. They have generated a sense of hope and a sense of optimism. More importantly, they have put money in people's pockets. They have encouraged investment. Sixty-four percent of Americans, according to most recent surveys, predict the economy will be stronger a year from now. That is up from 55 percent last February. Sixty-nine percent of Americans say the economy is stronger than it was 3 years ago.

We have a way to go in order to move this economy forward. But the way you change the economy is not doing it like a racetrack and racing around the bends in fast turns. You grow an economy in many ways. But you see the results. It is kind of like turning an ocean liner around in the middle of the ocean; you have to get it moving in the right direction.

The President's tax cuts have the economy moving in the right direction. The economy is moving in the right direction. Americans know that. Americans understand that. Let us stay that course. Let us continue to do that which generates investment, generates hope, and that grows jobs. It is the path we are on. It is the path the President set forth, which I support. It is the right path not just in theory but in reality.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Madam President, the Senator from Texas is controlling the time on the majority side and has asked that the time be extended 10 minutes, equally divided. We have no objection on this side.

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

THE ECONOMY

Mr. REID. Madam President, I simply say to my friend from Minnesota, before he gets too excited about the economy doing so well, that that expla-

nation should be given to the 3 million people who have lost jobs during this administration. This is the first President since Herbert Hoover who has had a net job loss during his tenure in office. I hope there is a turnaround. But before we come here and start giving speeches about how great the economy is, we need to explain that the economy is losing jobs on a monthly basis. We are not losing as many as we did, that is true, but we are still losing jobs. People need to work.

This is the worst job creation record of any modern President. It is the weakest economic growth under any President in 50 years. If there is a recovery, it is certainly jobless. Poverty is increasing. Real income is falling. We have a record deficit. No one seems to mention that.

There were cheers from the Department of Commerce this year that the deficit—when you add in the surplus of Social Security—is only about \$500 billion. They were cheering about that. There is a record deficit. There is a record debt increase. We are going to have to increase it again before this next summer is out. It is the worst fiscal reversal in history.

Keep in mind that during the last years of the Clinton administration, we were actually spending less Government money than we were taking in. There has been about a \$3 trillion loss in market value in the stock market.

I think the time is a little premature to start coming here and giving cheerleading speeches about the greatness of the economy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Madam President, there is an additional 5 minutes on our side. How much time remains on our side with the additional 5 minutes?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Nineteen minutes, nine seconds.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Thank you, Madam President.

I would like to allocate up to 5 minutes to Senator CRAIG, up to 10 minutes to Senator COCHRAN, and the remaining time to Senator SANTORUM.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, parliamentary inquiry: How much time remains on this side of the aisle?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Nineteen minutes, sixteen seconds.

Mr. WYDEN. Thank you, Madam President.

JOBS

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Madam President, I think it is very important that all of us look for ways to create jobs. We are very concerned about jobs not keeping up with the recovery. That is why we are trying to pass an energy bill. It is why we are trying to make sure we keep the tax cuts so that people will spend the money they have. That is why we have seen an increase in the value of the stock market. It is very important that we continue to focus on jobs. And I assure you, the President and the Congress are going to do that.