This authorization for DD(X) funding aligns the Senate-passed appropriations bill, and our bill parallels the appropriations bill with this funding.

The high priority placed on shipbuilding in the Senate's version of the Defense authorization legislation stands in stark contrast to the House Defense authorization bill which actually rescinds $84 billion in funds designated for Bath Iron Works, the detailed design work on the DD(X) I secured as part of the Defense legislation signed into law last year. The House version also slashes funding for the DD(X) program contrary to what was proposed in the President's budget.

These misplaced priorities remain even when the former Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Clark, has testified repeatedly that the Navy's requirements for the next generation destroyer are clear. I look forward to working with the other Members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services to resolve this important issue in our conference.

I now turn to the issue of the treatment of detainees. The vast majority of our troops carry out their dangerous and difficult missions with fairness, compassion, and courage. To them, the actions of those who have been accused of torture against detainees are demoralizing and make the difficult task they have been assigned immeasurably more difficult. Critics of abuse at detention facilities operated by the U.S. military have attributed this abuse not only to the criminal actions of individual military personnel—and, again, that is not the vast majority of our troops—but also to the lack of clear guidance across the U.S. Government for the treatment of detainees. Senator MCCAIN's amendment provides that clear guidance. I am proud to be a cosponsor.

Finally, let me comment very briefly on the amendment offered by my colleague from Maine. It only adds insult to injury to require a community to have to pay for the property involved in a base closure. Surely we can work with our communities in a more cooperative way to enable them to pursue the economic development that is necessary to make a closed military installation a productive part of the community once again. It is the least we owe these communities struggling with base closures throughout the United States. I hope we can work out something on that amendment.

The bill before the Senate is a good one. I salute the chairman and the ranking member for their hard work.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I thank our distinguished colleague and member of the committee, the Senator from Maine. The Senator has fought hard on behalf of her interests in that State. Indeed, the BRAC process, in some respects due to your efforts, was modified in the end to the interests of the State.

While I am not going to be able to support the Snowe-Collins amendment, nevertheless, in other areas the Senator made some progress. I thank the Senator for her work on the committee given her work on the Government Operations Committee. Nevertheless, the Senator finds time to attend our meetings and be an active participant. I thank my colleague.

I ask unanimous consent at the hour of 2:45 the Senate proceed to a vote in relation to the Inhofe amendment No. 2439, followed by a vote in relation to the Harkin amendment numbered 2438. I further ask that the Inhofe amendment be modified so it is a first-degree amendment, and that no second-degree amendments to the amendments be in order prior to the votes; provided further that the time from 2:15 to 2:45 be equally divided between Senators INHOFE and HARKIN. I further ask on an unrelated matter that Senator STEVENS be recognized for up to 10 minutes of morning business following the two votes.

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

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:41 p.m., recessed until 2:17 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. VOINOVICH).

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006—Continued

AMENDMENTS NOS. 2438 AND 2439

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 30 minutes of debate equally divided between Senator INHOFE and Senator HARKIN.

The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, under the previous order, the time between 2:15 and 2:45 is equally divided between the Senator from Oklahoma and the Senator from Iowa for the purposes of discussing the underlying amendment by the Senator from Iowa and a second degree that I put on on behalf of Senator INHOFE. My understanding is that Senator INHOFE will be here momentarily. But under the order, the Senate is now in session and open to hear comments on this legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, what we have coming up here are two votes, one at 2:45 on the Inhofe sense-of-the-Senate amendment, to be followed by a vote on my amendment.

Now, you might say: What harm is it in voting for the Inhofe sense-of-the-Senate amendment? Well, I thought I might even vote for it myself, until I read it. Because if you look at the sense-of-the-Senate amendment by the Senator from Oklahoma, in its findings—in its findings—it says:

> The American Forces Radio and Television Service and the American Forces Network provide a ''touch of home'' to members of the Armed Forces [et cetera] by providing the same type and quality of radio and television programming . . . that would be available in the continental United States.

Well, when AFRTS provides for 100 percent, under 33 local stations around the world, of Rush Limbaugh and Dr. Laura and James Dobson and zero percent on the progressive side, that is hardly ''the same type and quality'' ''available in the continental United States.'' So right away, that is a wrong finding.

Another finding is that the:

> American Forces Radio and Television Service . . . select programming that represents a cross-section of popular American radio and television.

Well, again, if 100 percent is on one side and zero is on the other, that also cannot be so.

And then in their sense-of-the-Senate amendment it says, it is the sense of the Senate—according to the Senator from Oklahoma—that:

> [T]he programming mission, themes, and practices of the Department of Defense with respect to its television and radio programming have fairly and responsively fulfilled their mission of providing a ''touch of home'' to members of the Armed Forces. . . .

Well, they have fairly and responsively fulfilled their mission when it is 100 percent to nothing? I do not think so.

Lastly, the Inhofe amendment says the Secretary of Defense may appoint an ombudsman—''may''—but it does not say what the ombudsman is supposed to do.

Now, to be clear, again, what our amendment does is it simply takes the DOD directive—which says they shall provide a free flow of political programming, that there should be the same equal opportunity for balance, and that they should provide them with fairness—and codifies it. We take that directive and codify it. That is all. We do not change it, we codify it. Then we set up an ombudsman and spell out what that ombudsman should do. And we spell that out in my amendment. So there is quite a bit of difference.

Again, I remind my fellow Senators that a year and a half ago, I offered a sense-of-the-Senate resolution because I thought if we gently prodded them and showed them what they were doing, they would follow their directive. That was 16 months ago. Now, 16 months later, it is 100 percent to nothing. There is zero programing on the progressive side.

Again, I want to make it clear we are not trying to restrict or in any way say what they have to carry, but as long as they are carrying this talk radio, it ought to at least be balanced. Some people say: Well, Rush Limbaugh has a big audience. He does. I don't deny that. But they are carrying Dr. Laura, they are carrying a Mark Merrill, whom I have never heard of. Why don't they carry Howard Stern? Howard Stern has 8 million listeners. Well, in that case, they said they do not like the content.