

like the means used by the terrorists. But we will prevail. We will rebuild buildings at Ground Zero. We will rebuild the network—slowly, but surely—that protects us at home. We will rebuild the strength of America abroad to fight terrorism and adapt. And we will prevail. But we will also never forget, never forget those people, some of whom were friends of mine, a guy I played basketball with as a kid in high school, a firefighter from the neighborhood in which I was raised, a businessman, very successful, who helped me on my way up—we will never forget them, never. We will resolve that their memory will importune us to be better as individuals and as a nation.

Mr. DOMENICI. Madam President, I would like to take a few moments to remember the Americans who were killed in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

In the 6 years since terrorists carried out the September 11 attacks, our Nation has not forgotten the innocent Americans who were killed, one of whom was Al Marchand from Alamogordo, NM, a flight attendant on United Airlines flight 175 and one of the first casualties on this horrific day. Neither have we forgotten the heroic policemen and firefighters who lost their lives trying to save fellow Americans or our brave men and women in uniform who have served their country in the war on terror. I do not believe Americans will ever cease to remember the shock and sadness we all felt that day.

September 11 also serves as a reminder that there are many in this world who would harm us and that we must remain vigilant. In the last 6 years we have made great progress in making sure America is secure and I am proud of the contribution many of my fellow citizens from New Mexico have made to strengthen our defenses against terrorist attack. The men and women at Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories have worked hard to develop many of the technologies that now help us detect terrorist threats. Many members of the New Mexico National Guard have been deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, and the global war on terror as well as many active duty members of the Armed Forces who are stationed in or are from New Mexico. All these service men and women are doing a fantastic job and we should not forget to thank them for their service and the sacrifices they have made to keep us safe.

Although the Islamic extremists behind the attacks sought to break our will and erode our freedom, they were unsuccessful on both fronts. Our liberty is dearer to us now, and we are reminded of that each day, as our nation continues the war against terror that these terrorists began 6 years ago.

I hope New Mexicans will take a moment today to reflect on the tragedy of 9/11, the Americans who lost their lives and the loved ones they left behind and pay tribute to the individuals who serve and defend us today.

Mr. SMITH. Madam President, I rise today in remembrance of the 2,974 Americans who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. They were family, friends, and neighbors going about their everyday lives. They were airline passengers, office workers, emergency personnel, and public servants. They were men, women, and children of every age and color. Yet they were targeted all the same, as citizens of a nation upholding the principles of freedom and personal liberty. We did not invite this extreme act of violence, nor will we soon forget the heroes who gave their lives that day. My prayers are with their families and the survivors of this unprovoked, cold-blooded attack.

Many brave Americans fought back that Tuesday morning, and many others have continued the fight these last 6 years. The United States has not suffered another 9/11 because we have pursued al-Qaida on our terms, attacking them where they plan and train before they can reach us at home. Many Oregonians have paid the ultimate price to protect their friends, family and country. For them, America is eternally grateful.

September 11 exposed the vulnerability of free societies to acts of terrorism. In response, Congress acted to improve our intelligence gathering and law enforcement agencies. These improvements have protected this country from further attacks. Today, we are better prepared to face this ideological battle of the 21st century, but we must never become complacent.

As today's ceremonies commemorate those fallen in New York City, the Pentagon, and Pennsylvania, may we also remember those Americans on the battlefield fighting to protect us back at home. Their courage and dedication testifies to the endurance of free men against all adversaries. God bless liberty and all those devoted to its preservation.

RECESS

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

Thereupon, at 12:25 p.m., the Senate recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. CARPER).

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I am going to shortly ask for unanimous consent in order to set up the next vote at 4 o'clock. I am waiting for the ranking member to return. He should be here shortly.

I see a Senator on the floor. If I could ask the Senator from Kentucky, does he wish to request time to speak?

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I wish to speak, yes.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I will yield for the Senator from Kentucky to speak for a few minutes, and then I will come back, and we will try to get unanimous consent, again, to set the vote at 4 o'clock.

I remind all Members of the Senate on both sides that the majority leader has asked us to finish this Transportation/Housing bill by tonight. We are going to be here late. Members do need to get their amendments to the floor, get them offered. We will work our way through them. But it is imperative we understand from everyone as soon as possible what business they need us to accomplish. Again, we expect to finish this bill by tonight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I am dismayed at the lack of consideration given to Senator CORNYN's resolution on General Petraeus and the troops. I condemn the comments made by the Democrats concerning our commander in Iraq, General Petraeus. The vendetta against our military must stop.

It sickens me to hear the comments some Democrats are making against General Petraeus. By attacking his character and reputation, these Democrats are attacking all our men and women in the military. On behalf of all these proud men and women who sacrifice their lives every day for our Nation, I am here to say these actions and accusations have no place in public discourse.

Americans do not attack the character of those who risk their lives to protect us. The lies, deceit, and disinformation the Democratic propaganda machines are feeding to the American people must stop.

To suggest that our troops and General Petraeus are motivated by politics rather than patriotism and love of our country is wrong. It diminishes the sacrifice each of them makes and their families have made in Iraq, Afghanistan, and many other places around the world.

These attacks are made by some of the same people who voted on January 26—this year—to unanimously confirm General Petraeus.

At this time, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD rollcall vote No. 33.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE ROLL CALL VOTES 110TH CONGRESS—1ST SESSION

As compiled through Senate LIS by the Senate Bill Clerk under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate

VOTE SUMMARY

Question: On the Nomination (Confirmation Lt. Gen. David H. Petraeus, U.S. Army, to be General)

Vote Number: 33.

Required For Majority: ½.

Nomination Number: PN178.

Nomination Description: Lt. Gen. David H. Petraeus, in the Army, to be General.