

but we had an industry that had been operating quite safely—absolutely safely—for decades without incident. When you lose that vigilance, things can happen, and things happened with the Exxon Valdez.

Since that time, we have learned that you have to have a level of preparedness as you operate in areas such as the Prince William Sound, you have to have a level of preparedness that meets the challenge you face. At the time the tanker ran aground, the spill response equipment that was there and had been planned for was not readily available. We didn't have sufficient boom available in the event of a disaster. We didn't have the fleet that could go out and assist in the disaster.

Now, 25 years later, Alyeska has 189 skimmers, 49 miles of boom and on-water storage capacity of almost 38 million gallons. We have put in place a requirement that North Slope oil must be transported in double-hull tankers. You cannot bring a tanker in to carry North Slope crude unless it is double-hulled. It doesn't matter what the weather is, we require a level of escort—a two-tug escort—out of the Prince William Sound. It can be a flat, calm summer day or a foul winter day, but every tanker going out is escorted by two tugs. We also have radar monitors that are in place that truly allow for a greater level of oversight and scrutiny.

What we have done in response to the spill is, I think, something that is worthy of note. Clearly, it is something that Other Nations look to as the example of preparedness. We have our Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council in place. They are truly active and engaged, not only with the community, but with the fishing fleets.

We have learned that the company Alyeska—the management company for the transportation of Alaska's North Slope oil—conducts two major oil spill drills every year to make sure that there is a level of preparedness. We have about 400 local fishing boat owners that are trained to deploy and maintain the boom. They come together with drills to make sure we never have anything like we saw with the Exxon Valdez again.

I think it is fair to say that 25 years after the spill, we are continuing to monitor not only the land and water but our fisheries. I recognize we still have a herring fishery that has not yet recovered. We still have a bird population—the guillemot—which has not recovered.

Twenty-five years is a long time. When you have a disaster, as we had, it does leave an impact. My goal, mission, and effort as a legislator is to make certain we do not have a level of complacency where we close our eyes and fail in our efforts for preparedness again.

I think what we have demonstrated in Alaska since the spill is, as I say, admirable in recognizing that we had

failed in a level of prevention, but we also recognized we could learn from that tragedy and move forward, and we did.

I wanted to take a couple of minutes this afternoon and acknowledge that there are still many Alaskans who woke up this morning not thinking about the weather or getting their kids to school, but with a very strong reminder of where they were 25 years ago and how the events of that day changed people's lives. Again, the goal here is to never have a tragedy of that scale and scope again.

With that, I thank the Chair, yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

REMEMBERING RICHARD CLINE

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Richard Francis Cline, a member of "The Greatest Generation." Mr. Cline, who passed away last September at the age of 89, will be honored today by interment at Arlington National Cemetery. Mr. Cline was a dedicated father and patriot who, like so many of his generation, left friends, family, and the comfort of home to take up arms in defense of his Nation.

A native of Chicago, and North Carolinian later in his life, Mr. Cline and his eight siblings knew hardship early in life, coming of age during the Great Depression. To help support his family he worked at several jobs as a boy and as a young man. He began working by selling popcorn at Wrigley Stadium at the age of 9 and learned, out of necessity, the merit of a strong work ethic that would follow him for the rest of his life.

After graduating from high school, he joined the U.S. Army at the age of 18. He served his country in General Patton's famous 3rd Army Corps, where he was a member of the 15th Medical Supply Division that operated in England as well as France and Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge. He witnessed the horrors of war and served his country to provide not only for his family, but also for the freedom of all Americans.

While stationed in a small town in Belgium, he met his future wife, Jeanine. She returned with him to America

and they continued their lives together following the war. They were married for 64 years, and together they raised 4 children who saw their father not only as their parent, but as their friend.

Once Mr. Cline returned home, he started what would become a 44-year career with the Continental Can Corporation. Those who knew him would tell you that he expected nothing he did not earn, and worked hard to achieve the American dream he fought so hard to protect. He gave earnestly to his community in many ways throughout his life, often making wooden toys for children who might not otherwise have had any presents at Christmas. Richard Francis Cline embodied the spirit of the "greatest generation" and made many who knew him proud to call him both a fellow American and a friend.

I am honored to have been able to call Mr. Cline a constituent. His interment at Arlington National Cemetery is recognition of his loyal service to this great Nation. I offer my condolences to his family and those who knew Mr. Richard Cline, for we have lost a remarkable man and role model.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING JUAN GONZALEZ AND BRIAN LAW

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of two dedicated public servants, California Highway Patrol officers Juan Gonzalez and Brian Law. Officer Gonzalez and Officer Law were tragically killed in the line of duty while responding to an automobile accident in Kingsburg, CA.

A graduate of Tulare Union High School and California State University, Fresno, Juan Gonzalez joined the California Highway Patrol in 2008, the culmination of years of hard work and the realization of a goal that he had held since he was 5 years old. He worked for 2 years in San Jose before transferring to the Fresno area in 2010.

A Marine and Air Force reservist, Brian Law also graduated from the California Highway Patrol Academy in 2008 and worked in Alameda County for the CHP for 5 years before transferring to Fresno last year.

Officer Gonzalez and Officer Law first met as cadets at the California Highway Patrol Academy, where they became good friends. In 2013, they teamed up as partners in the CHP's Fresno office.

Those who knew Officer Gonzalez fondly remember him as a trusted colleague and friend who was committed to his career and family. His determined spirit, unique laugh, and camaraderie will be missed.

Officer Law was an avid sports fan with an engaging personality whose willingness to help others and passion for law enforcement helped him to become a respected member of the California Highway Patrol. Above all else,