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## Senate

### REGARDING THE NATIONAL VICTORY CELEBRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, more than 10 months ago, the world was shocked when Saddam Hussein sent Iraqi troops to invade Kuwait. Governments the world over expressed their outrage at this lawless act of cruel and gruesome aggression. As the United Nations moved to condemn Iraq's actions and began to arrange for the protection of Kuwait's threatened neighbors, one nation moved a step further. The President of the United States ordered American soldiers to the Persian Gulf to provide protection for Saudi Arabia and other potential victims of Saddam Hussein.

From the onset, I supported President Bush in these courageous efforts. To the President's great credit, he had in place a team of military and civilian leaders ready and willing to provide the leadership that would make Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm so successful. Secretary of Defense, Dick Cheney, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman, Gen. Colin Powell, and field commander, Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf formed the triumvirate that orchestrated, with the military forces of some 28 countries, the defense of the Arabian peninsula and the ultimate liberation of the State of Kuwait. Meanwhile, Secretary of State, James Baker tirelessly traveled the globe to facilitate the diplomacy of such a massive international undertaking.

For the superb execution of their duties under the most trying circumstances, each of those men deserves the congratulations and gratitude of all Americans.

As we take this opportunity to cast out our plaudits to those who achieved victory in the gulf, praise cannot go only to those whose faces we saw on the evening news, but our unparalleled praise and gratitude must go to each and every one of the men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Enough cannot be said of the devotion and professionalism of the Ameri-

can servicemember: those individuals whose love of country is so strong that they stoically abide the sands and seas of another land in the defense of liberty. Over 450,000 of them left the security of home and family for the broiling heat of the Arabian desert. Tens of thousands of others played integrally important roles from bases here at home and throughout the world.

And on January 18, with the support of the Congress and the United Nations, and in concert with the Allied Forces, the waiting came to an end: Operation Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm, and the liberation of Kuwait had begun.

In Washington, and in every city and town, America watched the television reports that so vividly displayed the intensity of the conflict. We witnessed the deployment of the Patriot missiles and their successful midair interceptions of SCUD's. We watched the flaming tails of the Tomahawks as they launched from battleships. Daily we saw the pinpoint accuracy of the smart bombs deployed so skillfully by our brave pilots.

I had the great privilege of standing alongside the crew of the U.S.S. *Missouri* as they launched a Tomahawk toward an Iraqi target during one of the three visits I made to the Gulf region during the deployment of our troops. On each trip, I was deeply impressed by the commitment and expertise of the soldiers in the field.

Meanwhile, at home, flags were flown; yellow ribbons, symbolizing our love for those serving in the Gulf and our anxious await for their return, were displayed everywhere from car antennae to the White House porch.

And now our troops are coming home. There is cause for celebration.

On June 8, a great celebration took place here in Washington. Sponsored by the Desert Storm Homecoming Foundation, the celebration gave tribute to all the men and women of the Armed Forces.



I am particularly proud that during the celebration Miss Ashton Nolley, a young lady from Virginia, performed an original song, "America, Can You Hear Me?" Her song is a moving testimonial to the bravery and commitment of the American servicemen. It verbalizes some of the feelings of loneliness and uncertainty that many servicemen experience. I will re-

spectfully request that the text of the song be entered into the permanent RECORD of the proceedings of the Senate as a reminder not only of harrowing feats of men and women in American uniform, but of the support and love of those of us they so nobly serve.

Amid the excitement of the moment, let us not forget to pay tribute to those men and women who remain in the Persian Gulf. We should also pause to remember those who, fallen in the line of duty, cannot be here to share the glory of their returning comrades-in-arms. The Bible says, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." We give thanks for those who have gone before us in the service of their country, and take solace in the knowledge that they go on to an even greater glory than is known on earth.

I ask that the lyrics of "America, Can You Hear me?" be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the lyrics were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

# "AMERICA, CAN YOU HEAR ME?"

America can you hear me?  
I'm running with a rifle in my hand.  
America can you hear me?  
My best friend just fell to the sand.  
History in the making  
Blood on our hands,  
Cries for freedom  
Across the lands.  
Praise to the soldier let our voices roar!  
For freedom a life is sacrificed once more.  
As the bullets start flying, a light above will  
shine  
And a hero is born again for all mankind.  
America can you hear me?  
Does anybody even know my name?  
America can you hear me?  
Oh God, don't let me die in vain!  
Freedom is the answer  
For the world someday,  
In the light of death, Lord  
Let us pray.  
Praise to the soldier let our voices roar!  
For freedom a life is sacrificed once more.  
As the bullets start flying, a light above will  
shine  
And a hero is born again for all mankind.  
Too soon we forget the scars of liberty,  
The lives that were lost to make this country free.  
Let us sing  
Praise to the soldier let our voices roar!  
For freedom a life is sacrificed once more.  
As the bullets start flying, a light above will  
shine  
And a hero is born again for all.  
America can you hear me?  
I'm running with a rifle in my hand.  
America can you hear me?  
Please! help me try and understand.