



The Honorable John Warner

I asked to go last not knowing that all the hot balls would be passed down the table to end up in front of me. But I will try and address each of those very important points. First, I am privileged to have as a client the Pew Foundation, and they have sponsored

During his 30 years in the Senate, The Honorable John Warner focused primarily on national security, foreign affairs, and intelligence. He served on the Senate Armed Services Committee, at times as Chairman, the Senate Committee on Intelligence, at times as the Vice Chairman, and various other committees. Earlier in his career, the Senator volunteered for two periods of active military duty: the first as an enlisted sailor in the final years of World War II (1945–1946) and the second as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Marines, where he served as a communications officer in the First Marine Air Wing during the Korean War (1950–1952). After completing his law degree at the University of Virginia School of Law, he clerked for The Honorable E. Barrett Prettyman, U.S. Federal Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. From 1955 to 1960, he was in the Department of Justice serving as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia. He joined Hogan & Hartson as an associate in 1961 and became a partner in 1964. He left Hogan & Hartson in 1969 when he was appointed, and confirmed by the Senate, as Under Secretary, and later as Secretary, of the U.S. Navy. He served in those positions during the Vietnam War and during the Cold War. In 1974, the Senator was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as administrator for the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, where he administered federal programs in all 50 states and international programs with 22 foreign nations that participated in this historic 200-year anniversary of the founding of our nation. Subsequently, he waged 2 years of political campaigning, winning election to his first of five Senate terms in November 1978. On January 3, 2009, he completed his fifth consecutive term and retired, establishing a record of being the second longest-serving U.S. Senator in the history of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

me to travel to now 18 states to address the public. A typical visit takes me into a community to speak with the legislative body, the governor's office, the chambers of commerce, and the city councils and to have a public forum, usually at a nearby university. I want to come back at the end and close with some of those experiences.

First, though, I want to say that the job being done by this forum and each of you individually and collectively will eventually, hopefully, get into a book like the one produced by last year's symposium. On behalf of Pew, I have been to over 100 different conferences all across the country, and this book is about as good as it gets in writing regarding the subjects we are addressing today. I have never seen any better.

In my judgment, the subject of the nexus between energy and climate change and national security is gaining momentum, and people are beginning to pay attention, as was mentioned by General Gerald Galloway. But here is the problem. A recent Pew report looked at the 20 major industrial nations, looked at their GDP, looked at their job structure, and looked at the context of what they are doing in climate and energy and the like.

Those nations that had a national energy policy were forging ahead, just as The Honorable Jackalynne Pfannenstiel pointed out. We, the United States, do not have such a policy, and we are falling behind. We were not up in the top four or five on that chart, we were down at about eighth or ninth, somewhere in that area. Those of you who like to study the economic relationships of the subject would be well advised to look at that report.

Now I do not tend to be an expert on much in life, but I did spend 30 years in the Senate, and I think I understand some of the fundamentals of the legislative body. Winston Churchill once said that the first obligation of every parliamentarian (and he was actually referring to the British Parliament) is to get himself or herself reelected. If you can do some good along the way, that is all well and good.

I just think that we are on the precipice; we are doing things to this planet that could produce cataclysmic results. We have to come to grips with that in this country. Folks, I would be less than

honest if I did not tell you that right now I do not see, and I do not say this in a pejorative or negative sense, that coming together in the Congress to really consider the situation.

So we have two cataclysms crashing on this country at the same time. We need to address climate change, we need to fund our adaptations, and we need to engender how to get it done. At the same time, we have this budget crisis we face. So I go back to Churchill, he said get reelected. The only way you get reelected is if you do things that satisfy the instincts, motivations, and desires of your constituents. We will not be able to make any progress until we convince hometown America, main street America, that this subject is going to affect them or that it is going to really affect their children and grandchildren unless we address it. The same argument has to be made about fiscal policy in this country.

So our job, the job of those of us who are interested in this subject and are willing to take the time—as Secretary Pfannenstiel and General Galloway have done—is not only to convey our technical knowledge and perspectives but also to help figure out how we are going to message this to the general public and message it in a way that they understand it.

I am going to tell a little story on myself, and I never tell a story unless it is a story on me and it is sticking me in the ribs. I was a very aggressive, not so bright, but energetic Secretary of the Navy and I was visiting the Sixth Fleet. I always did my homework, and I checked on every ship's route there. I spotted one that I was interested in, and I said: "You know, I want to go visit that ship."

When I arrived in the Sixth Fleet, I told the commander that I wanted to visit this certain ship, so he directed his subordinates to let the Secretary get aboard that ship. As it turned out, this particular ship was in the process of getting a new helo pad, so you could not get to it by helicopter which was the way I had been traveling. So, I had to use a breach's buoy, which is throwing two lines to the ship from another ship going along at the same speed, and then getting in a little canvas bucket so that a bosun's mate could haul you over. But that did not appeal to the senior officers one damn bit, because if they dumped the Secretary of the Navy into

the Mediterranean in a high-sea state, they probably would not get their next star. But I insisted that I was going to go.

Well, the reason I went out there was because this ship had a 1200-pound steam plant. The captain of the ship was a young lieutenant commander. I told him that I never went aboard a ship without going into the engine room. Because as somebody said in the Royal Navy in World War II, all battle plans begin in the engine room.

So I went down there because if the crew knows that the Secretary went to the engine room, then he is one of you and he is thinking about how you run the ship. So I went down and was met by this big strong guy. He was covered with sweat because the place was full of steam. I asked, "Can you get this thing up to 31 knots?" He turned to the captain and asked, "Who is this guy?" "He is the Secretary of the Navy," came the reply. "Should I answer the question?" "Yes," was the captain's answer. So the chief said: "I expect I could because this is one of Burke's 31-knot beavers."

So I went up on the bridge with the captain, and we cranked it up to 31 knots because Admiral Arleigh "31 knot" Burke was one of my mentors. We got it up to 31 knots, and I called the Sixth Fleet commander up and told him what we had done. Well, I am telling you, he keel hauled me verbally and said you bring that throttle back down, that might blow up the steam plant and everything else. So I always think of that story, that if we do not get this thing right, we will have a problem on our hands in this country.

So I am going to finish up my remarks by just saying Congress has got to look at their responsibility in terms of leverage. As part of the good work being done by this forum and by many others elsewhere across America to deal with this message, we have got to figure out how to convince the voters to put knowledgeable ladies and gentlemen into the Congress and then convince those elected to do what has to be done. If Congress passes a national policy, then American can move ahead; it will create jobs and generate dramatic changes to help our economy.

So therein rests the leverage. I will continue to speak on behalf of Pew and others. Ultimately, though, we have to get our message

into a couple of pages so that local mainstream America can understand all your good and handy work. Let us hope that someday in the not-too-distant future that the American public and the Congress will recognize the tremendous leverage they have to help America get out of this dilemma.

Believe me, Secretary Robert Gates—whom I have known for many, many years in all his iterations—has really set the course and speed with his service secretaries. While in some instances they are competitive, in others, they need to work together. They have to share their thoughts. We do not always want everybody to build their own stovepipe. In many cases we need a team effort. A clear example, as I mentioned before, is how the President of the United States has tried his best to address this subject.

Now we are in a different sort of a situation—the reelection cycle is coming up. And frankly, I credit this forum for at least bringing up climate change. You would be surprised how at many of the forums to which I am invited to speak, they will say, “Well, we have taken climate change off the agenda,” and I tell them, “No way, I am going to talk about it anyway,” which I continue to do, as General Galloway did. It has to be brought up, even though it is a term that has now almost dropped from the lexicon of those who are trying to address the energy and the security problems.