

OPENING COMMENTS*

ROBINSON O. EVERETT**

Well it is truly a privilege to be here today. It is noteworthy that we are able to continue despite the failures in Washington and the inability to balance the budget or to reach a compromise, and I know that for many people this has created some special problems. I was impressed by the fact that we were able to start with military efficiency on the second that we were supposed to start. I do not want to delay proceedings, but there are a few things I do want to say.

First, I want to pay tribute to John Norton Moore and to his Center. I have known John quite a while, dating back to his days as a student at Duke, and have greatly admired his career. I can say that he has in so many ways been a leader and pathfinder for us. His example has led to the establishment of our Center at Duke. Also I am sure it had a part to play in the establishment of the Center that now exists at the JAG School for Law and Military Operations. His writings have led to the publication of various case books and many other documents in the field of national security.

Moreover I find it interesting that we have here today the editor of a new publication, the *National Security Law Journal*, which is to be published at the University of Mississippi Law School in con-

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junction with John's Center and our Center. We are proud to play a part in that. I learned yesterday that there is a National Security Law Moot Court Competition, of which I was unaware, but which will be entering its third year. So there is a lot happening in the field, and we are proud to be part of it.

Certainly, nothing could be more significant than looking at the lessons of the past. We are fifty years after Nuremberg. The lessons are just as important now as they were then. Indeed, as we move into the next millennium, perhaps those lessons are more important because we have the example of Rwanda, the former Yugoslavia, and others to look at.

Let me finally express appreciation to the JAG School for its hospitality. We are here in the Decker Auditorium, and I remember Ted Decker, a distinguished former Commandant of the School and a distinguished Judge Advocate General. This auditorium is a wonderful tribute to him.

I would like to do one other thing before closing. A few days ago, one of the great military lawyers, a former Judge Advocate General of the Army, passed away, General Kenneth Hodson. Many of you knew him. I think he was the example for many of us in terms of what a military lawyer should be. I would like to ask just for a moment of silence in his honor.

Thank you.