

graduated from Pocatello High School and received her degree from Idaho State University in 1966.

In 1966 as a bright-eyed and enthusiastic graduate of Idaho State University, she left Pocatello and boarded a plane for Washington, DC and arrived in our Nation's capital without having yet obtained a job. She was quickly hired by the Democratic Congressman from Idaho, Compton White Jr. After Congressman White's defeat in 1966, she immediately came on board Republican Congressman George Hansen's staff. From 1967 to 1969 Valorie proved to be an outstanding staff member for the Congressman and excelled in this capacity. In 1969 she returned with her husband Bill to Pocatello and became a teacher in the local school system and was involved in local education issues.

In 1973, her knowledge and work experience helped her to land a position as district director with one of the great leaders of Idaho, my predecessor, Senator James A. McClure. In this capacity she came to be well respected and looked upon for advice by Senator McClure. She worked for Senator McClure until his retirement in 1991.

Valorie Watkins' work for the people of Idaho is earmarked by her astute ability to keep in close contact with constituents by being involved in her community. She served in many capacities over the years in Pocatello; she has done an immense amount of work with the Greater Pocatello Chamber of Commerce, serving on over eight committees, including serving as a member of the board of directors from 1993 to 1996. She has been heavily involved in the Soroptimist International of Pocatello, from which she received several awards and also served as its president from 1993 to 1994.

In the 16 county region of which she oversaw, Valorie has come to be well respected by many leaders on both sides of the political aisle. Valorie has traveled throughout southeast Idaho to small communities like Preston, Montpelier, Soda Springs, and Malad and gained the respect of many Idahoans because of her help. Many leaders have sought her help and advice, including mayors, city councilman, county commissioners, educators and administrators, and Idaho State representatives. She is also well respected by many of the Federal Government agency heads in the area, and has worked closely with some of those individuals to resolve trying cases.

Whenever southeast Idahoans have sought help from my office with a problem with a Federal agency, they most likely have found it with Valorie Watkins. In a more memorable and recent incident, Valorie took the lead in my office's involvement with Tom Johansen, a Pocatello scrap metal dealer who was brought into the national spotlight when he unknowingly bought several thousand tons of sensitive nuclear hardware and blueprints from the Department of Energy at an auction. Valorie's involvement with the case

and persistence played a part in forcing the DOE to provide an equitable resolution in what might have otherwise been a disaster for Mr. Johansen.

Valorie's service to the people of Idaho I believe can be summed up from an editorial written by the editor of the Preston Idaho Citizen, a local small town newspaper in eastern Idaho:

Over the years while Valorie was an aid to Senator Jim McClure and to Senator Larry Craig, she has been a wonderful intermediary for just about anyone who had a challenge that concerned the Federal Government. She is one of the most personable persons that we know and we have been so grateful for her listening ear and her assistance in cases where there has been a need for contact with the Federal Government. Valorie Watkins is most approachable. . . . We see her move as a gain for Idaho State University and a loss for Senator Larry Craig!

And so, Mr. President, as Valorie brings to a close her long and productive career in service to the people of Idaho and this Nation, I wish her and her husband Bill nothing but the very best wishes for happiness and prosperity. ●

APPOINTMENT BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to title 46, section 1295(b), of the United States Code, as amended by Public Law 101-595, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy: the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. BREAUX], from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. INOUE], at large.

THE ROLE OF RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN CONTEMPORARY POLITICS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, yesterday morning, I had the pleasure of appearing on "Face the Nation," an always engaging experience. One of the subjects we covered in our wide-ranging questions and answers was the role of religious groups, in particular the Christian Coalition, in contemporary politics.

During the course of our discussion, I commented on the fact that the Republican Party welcomes the participation of people of all faiths, and I disagreed with those who see something ominous or irregular in what is sometimes called the religious right. These are, in fact, good people who are rightly concerned about the security of their homes, the safety of their children, and the future of family life in America.

Both parties need the participation of people like that. Moral and ethical concerns should not be the singular property of either party. That is what I was trying to convey in my comments concerning religious Americans and the Democratic Party. I meant to express the hope that our fellow citizens, whose religious beliefs lead them to advocate school prayer, engage in

home-schooling, or oppose abortion, could feel equally at home on either side of the political fence.

I did not mean to imply, and I regret it if my comments suggested otherwise, that the Democratic Party is without religious members. That of course is not the case. Neither party has a monopoly on faith, although, judging from the results of the 1994 elections, the GOP does seem to have a better track record with miracles.

I want to assure my colleagues, as well as the national television viewing audience of "Face the Nation," that I have the greatest respect for the diversity of faith represented within both Republican and Democratic ranks. And I close with the observation that, during the next 2 months or so, as the Senate deals with the hardest, toughest issues of the day, both sides of the aisle here will need our share of prayers.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1995

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 9 a.m. on Tuesday, September 12, 1995; that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate immediately resume consideration of H.R. 4, the welfare reform bill.

I ask further unanimous consent that the Senate recess between the hours of 12:30 and 2:15 for the weekly policy conferences to meet.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will resume consideration of the welfare reform bill tomorrow morning. Under a previous consent agreement, there will be a rollcall vote at approximately 9:10 tomorrow morning on or in relation to the Conrad amendment.

Following that vote and a 4-minute debate, there will be a rollcall vote on or in relation to the Feinstein amendment. All Senators can therefore expect two rollcall votes early tomorrow morning.

Following those votes, the Senate will begin debate on the Breaux amendment on maintenance of effort, with a vote to occur on that amendment at 2:15. Senators are also reminded that a cloture motion was filed this evening but in accordance with the consent agreement reached on Friday, that cloture vote will not occur prior to 6 p.m. this forthcoming Wednesday.

ORDER FOR RECESS UNTIL 9 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. CHAFEE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I

ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order following the remarks of Senator FEINSTEIN and Senator PRESSLER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNITED STATES-CHINA RELATIONS: A RIVER TO CROSS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, 2 weeks ago, I returned from a 6-day trip to China, during which time I spent more than 20 hours in meetings with top-level Chinese officials, including 4 hours with the President of the country, Jiang Zemin, Vice Premier Zhu Rongji, and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

We held wide-ranging discussions on a number of important issues in the United States-China relationship, including several issues which have caused the most serious strain between our two countries since relations were established in 1979.

I believe that these talks were informative and constructive for both sides. And I would like to share with my colleagues some of the major elements of those discussions and my observations as a result of this trip. I first met the President of China while I was mayor of San Francisco. In 1979, the first of my 9 years as mayor, I forged a sister city relationship with Shanghai, the first such relationship between an American and a Chinese city.

Jiang Zemin became mayor of Shanghai in 1985. And we became good friends as we negotiated agreements and overseas projects between our two cities. As partners in this endeavor, we vowed to shrink the vast Pacific Ocean that divides us into a small river across which communication, trade and an exchange of ideas could easily flow.

That was 10 years ago. Jiang Zemin is now President of China, and he leads a nation of 1.2 billion people. Over the last 20 years, I have visited China many times and spent a great deal of time studying its people, its culture, and its political dynamism. I have talked with China scholars and read avidly about this complicated country and its rich 5,000-year history.

Few nations rival China's strategic importance to the United States. China is the largest country in the world, one of the largest economies, one of only five declared nuclear powers, and a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council.

The cold war Soviet axis of power has dissolved in the last 5 years, and as Russia struggles with democracy and works to regain its military and economic stability, China's emerging presence will most certainly shape the balance of power in Asia and in the world.

I wrote to President Jiang on July 11 and expressed my deep concern about the state of United States-China relations. Issues that divide the United

States and China today have increasingly prevented a productive exchange of views. And the detention of human rights activist Harry Wu, now an American citizen and resident in my State, had effectively blocked all lines of communication between our two countries.

In my letter, I offered to come to China to discuss the case of Mr. Wu and other matters. President Jiang wrote back and accepted, saying he would welcome my visit to Beijing. My husband and I left on August 17 for Beijing and Shanghai. We met privately with President Jiang for 2 hours and then were joined by Senator and Mrs. JOHNSTON for dinner with the President.

Our discussions with President Jiang were very frank and candid on matters pertaining to relations between our two countries, particularly the issues of Taiwan, the recent visit of Lee Teng-hui, and the detention of Harry Wu.

I delivered a message to President Jiang from President Clinton that he would be most appreciative of any assistance that the Chinese President could provide in the matter of Harry Wu, that Mr. Wu's release would remove an obstacle of communication between the United States and China, and that President Clinton looked forward to meeting with Jiang Zemin to chart a new and mutually beneficial course for Sino-American relations.

President Jiang sent an emissary to me on the morning of my departure from Shanghai with the message that Harry Wu would be released, quite possibly before I left China later that day, which did, in fact, happen just that way. As I left from the Shanghai airport, I saw the Air China flight that was being held for Harry Wu, who was right then on a flight from Wuhan, although I did not know it for sure at that time.

With the status of Mr. Wu resolved, the United States, and President Clinton in particular, now have a historic opportunity to chart the course of United States-China relations into the 21st century.

This will not be an easy road. China and the United States have many differences in culture, in our political systems, in our economic and legal structures. However, what many Americans may not understand is that today we also have many common interests. But the opportunity to bridge our differences and build on our common interests is wholly dependent upon dialogue, something sorely lacking at this time.

At this moment the United States and China have no ambassadors in each other's country, although I understand that this situation will now be partially remedied with the announcement that Ambassador Li Daoyu will soon return to Washington.

One example of the effect of a lack of diplomatic communication is the visit of Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui to the United States in June. Although, as a U.S. Senator, I understood

that there is no more important policy for China than the status of Taiwan as part of China, I and other Senators voted to allow the visit. I never heard from China that what we considered to be a personal visit by an alumnus of an American university would cause such a rift in our relations, and I was stunned by the intense reaction of the Chinese officials.

President Jiang told me that he learned of the decision to allow Lee Teng-hui's visit by reading it in a newspaper. The Chinese were, in turn, stunned by the insensitivity and lack of communication from the United States on what they saw as a major shift in policy toward their country, particularly since they were assured as late as mid-May that U.S. policy would be to refuse such a visit.

In an action that further convinced China that they were seeing an emboldened Taiwan, the day Lee Teng-hui left for the United States, Taiwan held joint military army, navy and air force exercises off the coast of China.

Also, Lee Teng-hui broached a Two Chinas Policy in a speech at Cornell, further inciting Beijing. And no one should think that Beijing did not take this seriously. All of this may have been avoided with consistent and frank dialogue between Beijing and Washington.

Reopening and strengthening diplomatic channels of communication is but one, albeit critical, step in building a new relationship with China. As important as what we seek from China in the way of human rights, open markets and Democratic reform is how we communicate ideals. Americans have a tendency to tell China what to do instead of trying to understand what China needs and how it is to China's interests to do some things. And it is time that we learned that this will not be the most effective method of encouraging change in China.

Much has changed in China since I first visited in 1979. People speak much more freely. Consumer goods from China and all over the world are available more than ever before. The standard of living is up. And privatization of formerly Government-controlled industries is taking hold. When I was there 2 years ago, only 8 percent of the industries were in private hands. Now 20 percent are either in joint venture or private hands, about 40 percent controlled by the central Government, and 40 percent in state cooperatives. A Western-style marketplace in the form of an economic democracy is, in fact, taking place.

The question we must ask ourselves is, Can an economic democracy exist long term without a social democracy following? I believe the answer to that is no. But make no mistake, China today is a Communist country. But by encouraging open markets and privatization of industries, we are exposing China to democracy in a much more effective manner than by calling for it on the front pages of our newspapers or by