

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

FOREIGN TRAVEL, APRIL 2
THROUGH APRIL 5, 1996

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on April 2, on behalf of the Senate Intelligence Committee, I traveled to Paris and then to The Hague, where I consulted with the prosecution teams of the war crimes tribunal to assess their progress. Then, on April 3, on to Belgrade April 4, then to Tuzla, and back to Paris on the evening of April 4.

While in Paris, I had the opportunity to observe the operation of the Paris Embassy, under the direction of Ambassador Pamela Harriman. I was very much impressed with what I saw of the operation there. Ambassador Harriman conducts a large Embassy. Really, Paris is the crossroads of the European continent. There are many complex issues that confront the Embassy involving security matters with NATO, involving commercial matters, involving activities that touch upon the operation of the Senate Intelligence Committee and the Central Intelligence Agency. I was very much impressed with those operations.

During the course of my discussions with Ambassador Harriman, I discussed with her the cuts in the budget of the State Department in the so-called 150 Account. And from the work I have done on the Appropriations Committee, and in the past having been on the subcommittee with jurisdiction over the Department of State, it is my sense that the cuts that have been imposed are excessive.

I asked Ambassador Harriman to prepare for me a list of specifics, which she has done, entitled "Disinvesting in Diplomacy," pointing out how hard hit large Embassies will be, like the Embassy in Paris, and with the specification of the cuts and the impact of those cuts on her operation. I was especially impressed with one of her offices, from which 17 officers had been cut, under last year's reduction, to 12, and if the anticipated cuts are put into effect for next year, down to 7.

Mr. President, at the conclusion of my remarks, I ask unanimous consent that the specification under the caption "Divesting in Diplomacy" be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ASHCROFT). Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, while in Paris, and at the Embassy on the evening of April 2, I visited with Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown for whom a reception was held in his honor along with the Secretary of Labor Robert Reich.

As we all know, on the very next day Secretary Brown and his company met their untimely deaths with the crash of their plane making a landing approach into Sarajevo.

When Secretary Brown and I spoke on the evening of April 2 at about 6:45

he was robust, enthusiastic, and very anxious to carry out his responsibilities as Secretary of Commerce. He had brought with him a group of United States businessmen who could be instrumental in the rebuilding and the revitalization of Bosnia.

It is well accepted that, if the peace in Bosnia is to stay and is to hold, there will have to be a buildup of the infrastructure there, and Secretary Brown was there in connection with those duties. He and I talked about meeting in Sarajevo or Zagreb. But that meeting unfortunately did not take place. The next morning I departed for Serbia, was in Belgrade, and had a plane on April 3 to travel to Sarajevo. That plane was canceled because of weather. We did not go to Sarajevo, and the same weather conditions resulted in the fatal crash of Secretary Brown and his company.

I traveled the next day to Tuzla, arrived there early in the morning, was met by General Cherry, and we immediately talked about Secretary Brown's visit the preceding day. Secretary Brown had arrived at 6:40 a.m. on April 3 and visited the United States military establishment in Tuzla, and departed at 1:58 p.m. And then, as we know, shortly thereafter the fatal crash occurred on the approach to the landing in Dubrovnik.

Secretary Brown was certainly a stalwart advocate of U.S. interests, and his loss will be deeply felt by the U.S. Government. On behalf of my wife Joan, I want to convey our deepest sympathies and condolences to Ron's wife, Alma, and their two children, Michael and Tracey, and the rest of their family.

EXHIBIT 1

DISINVESTING IN DIPLOMACY

Large projected cuts in the 150 account will hamper our ability to attain U.S. economic, security and political objectives worldwide for many years to come.

Among the hardest-hit will be our large embassies in Western Europe. These Embassies protect and promote vital U.S. interests. Western Europe is home to most of our biggest and most powerful trading and investment partners. NATO is our most important military alliance.

Our European allies share our democratic ideals and are willing to join us in coalitions to promote global stability. A few, such as France, have global military, economic, technological and commercial interests which parallel our own. In France, our diplomacy reaches well beyond bilateral relations to include cooperation and burdensharing on a broad range of global issues.

Embassy Paris, like most other major Embassies, is cutting back sharply its operations while trying to economize. The consulate in Lyon was closed in 1992. In 1996, the Bordeaux consulate also had to be closed. The latter had been in operation since George Washington's Presidency.

In 1996, the Embassy was required to close its travel and tourism office. Its ten person staff, which was handling 100,000 requests for information annually from potential foreign visitors to the U.S., was eliminated. The calls will have to be absorbed or redirected with no increase in staff.

In the past two years, Embassy Paris has cut the operating hours of its communica-

tion center by 65 percent. A hiring freeze has been in place for four years, and the Embassy's French work force has not received a pay increase in three years. Twenty-five French employee positions have been marked for elimination. The list of other reductions is long.

In view of these reduced resources, Embassy Paris is making a concerted effort to "work smarter" with fewer resources. It has formed "teams" to pool interagency assets more effectively. It has negotiated savings of \$3,000,000 over five years in local service contracts. It instituted a new interactive automated telephone service for visa applicants which generates \$8,000 to \$10,000/month in revenues. A consolidation of warehouses is saving \$400,000 per year. A new computerized pass and ID system allowed the Embassy to cut 10 Marine guards.

This kind of innovation has allowed cuts to be distributed and absorbed within the Embassy without drastic cutbacks in services thus far. However, this is now likely to change.

The State Department is calling for another round of deep personnel cuts. For Paris, this would entail a 43 percent drop in core diplomatic personnel in the 1995 to 1998 period. Reductions this large will impact heavily on core diplomatic strengths and the Embassy's effectiveness. Some of the effects will be:

Advocacy for U.S. trade and business interests will be reduced in frequency and effectiveness (recent investment problems handled by the Embassy included U.S. firms in the food processing, pharmaceutical and information industries).

The loss of the Embassy's ability to monitor the Paris Club, the organization which negotiates debt rescheduling affecting billions owed the USG by developing countries.

A 50 percent reduction in contacts with the key French officials we must reach if we are to influence French policy and advocate U.S. positions on questions of vital interest to us.

Closure of the Science office at a time when our cooperative exchanges with France on nuclear, space and health technology matters (to mention only three) should be growing rapidly.

Significant cutbacks and slowdowns in passport and welfare services to U.S. citizens. Passport issuance will take 3 to 5 days instead of one. Prison visits will be cut to one per year. Consuls will no longer attend trials of U.S. citizens. The consulate will be open to the public for only two hours per day.

A 60 percent reduction in State Department reporting from Paris, including the political and economic analysis we need on France's activities in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, and Asia.

These trends are disturbing and merit closer attention. The Administration and Congress must work together to assess carefully how budgetary and personnel cutbacks affect our core diplomatic capabilities in Western Europe and elsewhere. This is especially true at a moment when business and information is globalizing and our national interests dictate that we be even more intensively engaged with our key allies than in the past.

(The remarks of Mr. SPECTER pertaining to the submission of Senate Resolution 247 are printed in today's RECORD under "Submission of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.")

(The remarks of Mr. SPECTER pertaining to the introduction of S. 1681 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. SPECTER. I thank the Chair.

I yield the floor, and with that conclude the activities of the Senate today.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:23 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, April 18, 1996, at 9:30 a.m.

CATION BOARD FOR A TERM OF 4 YEARS, VICE JOHN P. ROCHE.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR REAPPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL IN THE U.S. ARMY WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 601(A):

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. DANIEL W. CHRISTMAN, 000-00-0000, U.S. ARMY.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9:30.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate April 17, 1996:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOHN W. HECHINGER, SR., OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY EDU-