

COMMENDING AND THANKING THE HONORABLE WARREN CHRISTOPHER

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 4, submitted earlier today by Senators CONRAD, DORGAN, DODD, BIDEN, MOSELEY-BRAUN and DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 4) commending and thanking the Honorable Warren Christopher for his exemplary service as Secretary of State.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to a great American on the occasion of his retirement from Government service, the Hon. Warren Christopher.

Anyone who has been reading the headlines for the past 4 years is well familiar with Secretary Christopher's many accomplishments. Through negotiations on ending the war in Bosnia, restoring elected government in Haiti, and advancing the peace process in the Middle East, Secretary Christopher has kept a steady, reliable hand on the ship of state. His calm demeanor, good humor, and sharp intelligence will be missed by all who knew him. America has benefitted from his able leadership, and it is my hope that he will continue to be active in the affairs of our Nation in his retirement.

Less widely known than Secretary Christopher's negotiating acumen is the fact that he hails from my home State, the Great State of North Dakota. Born in Scranton, Secretary Christopher has made proud a State which prides itself on hard work, quiet strength, and doing the right thing. Secretary Christopher is one of my State's most distinguished natives sons, and will always have a home in North Dakota.

In light of his many important achievements, today I am introducing a resolution which commends and thanks Secretary Christopher for his excellent service to the Nation. The resolution highlights his "indefatigable commitment to advancing peace and justice, protecting and promoting United States interests, and preserving United States leadership in international affairs." I trust that all of my colleagues will agree that Secretary Christopher deserves to be so honored, and will support my resolution.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, earlier today on the third day of the 105th Congress, we cast a historic ballot—on behalf of the first woman to be confirmed as Secretary of State in our Nation's proud history.

But, as we prepare to usher in Madeline Albright as America's new Sec-

retary of State, I wanted to take this opportunity to voice my strong support for the pending resolution that honors the man whose shoes she will soon be filling—Warren Christopher.

Over the past 4 years, Warren Christopher provided the steady hand and reservoir of experience that helped President Clinton successfully weave his way through the minefield of international diplomacy.

Through these efforts, he earned a revered statute—as the elder statesman of the President's Cabinet.

In the more than 200-year history of our Republic, no Secretary of State traveled more miles in the pursuit of democracy, open markets, and the promotion of American international interests than Warren Christopher. From Beijing to Buenos Aires, Johannesburg to Jakarta, and Mali to Moscow, no journey was too far and no effort unworthy of his personal diplomacy.

In the Middle East, his diplomatic endeavors paved the way for the first steps toward reconciliation and cooperation in the age-old conflict between Israelis and Palestinians.

Generations from now, Bosnians, Serbs, and Croats will look back with fondness and appreciation at his tireless efforts to bring the warring parties together at Dayton. In fact, at Dayton, after the bags were packed and the participants had all but given up, it was Warren Christopher who convinced all sides that a peaceful resolution was the only true hope for the Balkans.

Under his watch, the Haitian people were able to finally cast off the evils of dictatorship for the fruits of democracy. The Korean Peninsula took its first tentative steps toward limiting the development of nuclear weapons and curbing tensions in one of the cold war's last hotspots.

What's more, over the past 4 years—with the strong support of Warren Christopher and the Clinton administration, democracy spread its wings across every corner of the globe.

Today in Latin America every nation but one is a full-fledged democracy. In Russia, 70 years of totalitarian rule are giving way to free elections and open markets. And in Africa, a region scarred for so long by war, famine, and political instability, the seeds of democracy are beginning to take root.

However, for all the accomplishments that Warren Christopher achieved overseas, we must not forget the impact of his impressive contributions here at home. Besides helping to make America more secure and protecting our vital national interests, Warren Christopher presided over a period of great economic liberalization—a period that brought greater prosperity and limitless economic opportunity to millions of Americans.

Secretary Christopher built on the passage of NAFTA and GATT by working to create a framework for regional-wide trading blocs in all of Latin America and the Pacific rim. The result is increased opportunities for ex-

port, and new developing markets for American commerce.

But, most of all, Warren Christopher brought a quiet dignity, grace, and gentle demeanor to his role as Secretary of State.

At a time when public debate in our Nation is becoming coarser and more partisan, when style seems to take precedent over substance and when shrill voices garner more attention than quiet deliberation, Warren Christopher proved that you can still speak softly, yet carry a big stick.

A recent editorial in his hometown Los Angeles Times by Tom Plate describes the traits that define Warren Christopher best:

Extreme loyalty to friends and colleagues; a faith in the institutions of government and the Constitution; respect for careerists in the State Department as well as on his personal staff; discretion approaching squareness.

These are the attributes that inspired him through four Democratic administrations and years of public service. What's more, they are virtues that every American should expect from their leaders.

As he prepares to return to his beloved California with his wife, Marie, to spend more time with his children and grandchildren, I join all my colleagues in wishing him the best.

What's more, I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution honoring a man who in all his travels—from the Great Plains of Scranton, ND, to the corridors of power in Foggy Bottom—never lost his sense of dignity, grace, and conviction to principle.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution and preamble be agreed to, en bloc, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 4) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 4

Whereas Secretary Warren Christopher served as Secretary of State from 1993 until 1997, and maintained the tradition of that Office by representing the international interests of the United States with great dignity, grace, and ability;

Whereas Secretary Christopher, during his tenure as Secretary of State, engaged in more international travel than any other Secretary of State in United States history, reflecting his indefatigable commitment to advancing peace and justice, protecting and promoting United States interests, and preserving United States leadership in international affairs;

Whereas Secretary Christopher has played a key leadership role in United States foreign policy achievements, including ending the war in Bosnia, restoring an elected government in Haiti, and advancing peace in the Middle East;

Whereas Secretary Christopher served with distinction as Deputy Secretary of State from 1977 until 1981 and, among his accomplishments as Deputy Secretary, is credited with skillfully negotiating the release of American hostages in Iran;

Whereas Secretary Christopher has had a distinguished career in law and public service in California;

Whereas Secretary Christopher, born in Scranton, North Dakota, is one of North Dakota's most distinguished native sons and has always displayed the quiet strength and work ethic associated with the people of the Great Plains;

Whereas in 1997 Secretary Christopher leaves his position as the 63d Secretary of State; and

Whereas Secretary Christopher has earned the respect and admiration of Congress and the American people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress commends and thanks the Honorable Warren Christopher for his exemplary diplomatic service, and for his skillful and indefatigable efforts to advance peace and justice around the world.

PROVIDING FOR A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 9, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 9) providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President on the state of the Union.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be deemed agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 9) was agreed to.

RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE PAUL TSONGAS

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 22, which is at the desk and was introduced earlier today by the majority leader and the Democratic leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 22) relative to the death of the Honorable Paul Tsongas, formerly a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 22) was agreed to as follows:

S. RES. 22

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Paul Tsongas, formerly a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1997

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in adjournment until the hour of 11 o'clock, Thursday, January 23, further, that immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, no resolutions come over under the rule, the call of the calendar be dispensed with, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there then be a period for the transaction of morning business with each Senator allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will be in session tomorrow for morning business to allow Members to introduce legislation and make statements. No rollcall votes will occur during Thursday's session of the Senate. When the Senate completes its business on Thursday, it will stand in adjournment until Monday, January 27, for a pro forma session only. No business will be transacted on Monday, and the Senate will then adjourn until Tuesday. The majority leader has announced that rollcall votes are possible on Tuesday on any nominations that

may become available for consideration.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M., THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1997

Mr. MURKOWSKI. If there is no further business, Mr. President, to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order in accordance with the provisions of Senate Resolution 22.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:30 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, January 23, 1997, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate January 22, 1997:

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE U.S. MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. JAMES L. JONES, 0000.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE SECTION 12203:

To be captain

LARRY L. BLAKESLEY, 0000.

HARRY S. TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

SUSAN BASS LEVIN, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HARRY S. TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 10, 1999, VICE RICHARD C. HACKETT.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE U.S. ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. GREGORY A. ROUNTREE, 0000.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE U.S. MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MARTIN R. STEELE, 0000.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive Nominations Confirmed by the Senate January 22, 1997:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MADELEINE KORBEL ALBRIGHT, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

WILLIAM S. COHEN, OF MAINE, TO BE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.