

We first received Arthur Gajarsa's nomination in April 1996. He was accorded a hearing in the last Congress on June 25, 1996, and was unanimously reported by Judiciary Committee to the full Senate 2 days later. Unfortunately, his nomination was never acted upon because of the Presidential election year shutdown of judicial confirmations in 1996.

The President renominated Arthur Gajarsa on the first day of this Congress for the same vacancy on the Federal Circuit, which vacancy has existed since November 1995. This vacancy has persisted for more than 1½ years. He has the support of both Senators from Maryland. He had a confirmation hearing on May 7 and the Committee considered and unanimously reported his nomination to the Senate 2 weeks later. This nomination has been pending on the Senate Calendar since May 22. Apparently, after these 2 months on the Senate Executive Calendar without action or any explanation for its inaction, the Republican leadership is prepared to allow the Senate to approve this nomination.

I am delighted for Mr. Gajarsa and his family that he is finally being confirmed. He will make a fine judge.

STATEMENT ON THE NOMINATION OF THOMAS W. THRASH, JR.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am delighted that the majority leader has decided to take up the nomination of Thomas W. Thrash, Jr., to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia. Mr. Thrash is a well-qualified nominee.

The Judiciary Committee unanimously reported his nomination to the Senate on May 22, 1997. The Northern District of Georgia Sixth Circuit desperately needs Thomas Thrash to help manage its growing backlog of cases.

We first received Thomas Thrash's nomination in May 1996. He was accorded a hearing last Congress on July 31, 1996, but his nomination fell victim to the Presidential election year confirmation shutdown of 1996. The President renominated him on the first day of this Congress for the same vacancy on the District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, which vacancy has existed since March 1996. He had a confirmation hearing on May 7 where he was supported by both Senator CLELAND and Senator COVERDELL and was reported to the Senate by the Judiciary Committee 2 weeks later. This is another of the nominations that has languished on the Senate Executive Calendar since long before the July 4 recess. I am glad that the Republican leadership has allowed this nomination to go forward. I congratulate Mr. Thrash and his family on his confirmation.

STATEMENT OF THE NOMINATION OF PHILIP LADER

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise on behalf of Mr. Philip Lader to be Ambassador. Philip Lader is a man of

integrity and honor whom I hold in high esteem. He has a deep respect for the British people and their beautiful country. I know that he, along with his wife Linda, and their two young daughters Mary Catherine and Whittaker will represent the United States well at the Court of St. James and will make us all very proud.

Mr. President, I rise today in strong support of the confirmation of Mr. Philip Lader to be the U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. I have known Mr. Lader and his family for years, and I believe he will work hard to maintain and strengthen the long and valuable friendship between our two nations.

Although he was born in New York, and was educated at Duke University, the University of Michigan, Harvard, and Oxford, Mr. Lader has called South Carolina home for many years. It is in South Carolina where he established himself as a leader in business and education. He was associated for 10 years with Sea Pines Co., a developer and operator of award-winning recreational communities on Hilton Head Island. In addition, he has held the following business positions: president of Business Executives for National Security; founding director of the South Carolina Jobs/Economic Development Authority; director of First Union National Bank (S.C.) and First Carolina Bank; director of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce; chairman of the South Carolina Governor's Council on Small and Minority Business; and a member of the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee's Travel and Tourism Advisory Committee. In 1981, he founded Renaissance Weekend, a family retreat for innovative leaders.

In education, he served as president of Winthrop College in Rock Hill, SC, from 1983 to 1985. During his tenure, Winthrop was awarded the National Gold Medal for general improvements in programs. Academically, he has served as chairman of the South Carolina Rhodes Scholarship Committee, trustee of three colleges, and director of the Alumni Association at Duke University. He has taught courses at many universities and has been awarded honorary doctorates by five institutions.

Mr. President, for the past several years, Phil Lader has been utilizing his business skills in the U.S. Government. He most recently served as Administrator of the Small Business Administration. Prior to that, he was Assistant to the President and White House Deputy Chief of Staff. He has also been Deputy Director for Management at the Office of Management and Budget and has been chairman of the National Performance Review's Policy Committee, the President's Management Council, and the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency. In addition, he has served on the National Economic Council, the President's Export Council, the Community Empowerment Board, and the Board of Governors of

the American Red Cross. Currently, he is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Mr. President, all of the business, academic, and Government experience that I have just described are tremendous assets Mr. Lader will bring to the Court of St. James. However, Mr. Lader has even more to offer this position, both professionally and personally. Professionally, he was executive vice president of Sir James Goldsmith's U.S. holding company, which was responsible for the analysis and sales of lands previously owned by Crown Zellerbach and Diamond International Corporations. He was also president of Bond University, the first private university in Australia, a British Commonwealth nation.

Personally, the Lader family has strong ties to the United Kingdom, particularly England and Scotland. He studied English constitutional history at Oxford University and is an Honorary Fellow of Pembroke College at Oxford. Further, the ancestors of his lovely wife, Linda, emigrated from Henley-on-Thames, just west of London. In fact, her late stepmother, Catherine Marshall, was the author of "A Man Called Peter," the biography of her husband, the Scottish Presbyterian Minister Peter Marshall, who served as the U.S. Senate Chaplain from 1947 until his death in 1949. Mrs. Lader is a trustee of the American University in London.

Phil Lader is a man of integrity and honor, whom I hold in high esteem. He has a deep respect for the British people and their beautiful country. I know that he, along with his wife Linda and their two young daughters, Mary Catherine and Whittaker, will represent the United States well at the Court of St. James and will make us all very proud.

Mr. President, I reiterate my strong support for the confirmation of Phil Lader to be Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. I have no doubt that he will live up to the commitment he made to the Foreign Relations Committee earlier this week and devote his time and energy "not only to the salient matters of diplomacy, but also to the arts and letters, the streets and fields, the industries and entrepreneurs, those who innovate and those in need, all of which preserve and strengthen the heritage and common causes of America and the United Kingdom."

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

STATEMENT ON THE NOMINATION OF FELIX ROHATYN

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I was privileged to be on the floor at the time the distinguished majority leader put forth the Executive Calendar, including the name of Felix Rohatyn to be the United States Ambassador to France. I had the privilege of introducing Mr. Rohatyn to the Committee on Foreign Relations. And together with his lovely wife, Elizabeth, I assure the

Senate that they will make an extraordinarily competent team to represent our Nation.

And now, Mr. President, I am going to do something that is unusual. I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Rohatyn's statement before the committee be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATEMENT BY FELIX G. ROHATYN BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, JULY 29, 1997

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

It is a great honor for me to appear before you today to seek your consent to President Clinton's nomination of me to serve as the next American Ambassador to France. It is also a very emotional experience, for many reasons.

Let me begin by expressing to you, Mr. Chairman, my appreciation for your courtesies and those of your staff. You have been gracious and helpful to me and to my family in assisting us through this rather daunting process.

I am, as you know, a refugee who came to this country from Nazi-occupied Europe in 1942. As long as I can remember, going back to those very dark days, being an American was my dream. I was fortunate to achieve that dream, and America has more than fulfilled all of my expectations. To represent, at this time, my adopted country as her Ambassador would be the culmination of my career; to have been nominated to represent my country in France, a country where I spent part of my childhood and with which I have had a lifelong relationship, both professional and personal, seems to me more than I could have ever hoped for.

I have been fortunate in having had a long and active career in investment banking. Over the last 40 years or so I have provided financial advice to a number of domestic and foreign corporations, mainly involving their activities in mergers and acquisitions. I have also, over the years, served on the boards of directors of a number of large multinational corporations. This activity has included a number of negotiations through which French companies made significant investments in the U.S. and vice versa. This, coupled with the fact that my former firm has an affiliate in Paris, has allowed me to maintain close personal relationships with a number of French business leaders, as well as with leaders from the world of culture, media and the arts. I have also over the years known a number of senior government leaders and have had the honor of being decorated by the French government.

I believe that my business experience, as well as my relationship with French leaders and my knowledge of France in general, will enable me to represent my country effectively if you choose to consent to my nomination.

I also believe that our relationship with France is extraordinarily important. Aside from the history of allied cooperation going back to Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Lafayette, we have fought side by side with France in World Wars One and Two, and more recently in the Gulf War. We sit side by side with France in the U.N. Security Council, in the OECD, and in every other major multinational institution; our soldiers are participating together today in NATO's important peacekeeping operation in Bosnia. France is one of our largest trade partners and one of the largest foreign direct investors in the U.S.; we are the largest foreign

investor in France. While we have many differences with France, in a variety of areas, I believe that, most importantly, France is a democracy which is our friend and with whom we share our most important values.

France, like some other European countries, is going through a difficult period of adjustment to the changes demanded by global economic forces. France's success in dealing with her problems is important not only in the context of our bilateral relationship, but also in the context of the future architecture of Europe. The U.S. has, for the last 50 years, encouraged the political and economic integration of Europe. France's role in such integration is critical.

Mr. Chairman, I have had the great privilege of serving my city and my state at a time when New York City was in considerable difficulty. I hope that you will give me the opportunity, by consenting to my nomination, to represent my country's interests at a time and in a place which is important to the U.S. I can assure you that, should you do me this honor, I will make every effort to do so effectively.

STATEMENT ON THE NOMINATION OF JAMIE RAPPAPORT CLARK

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I would like to make a few remarks about the nomination of Jamie Rappaport Clark to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The President nominated Ms. Clark on July 9, and I am pleased to report that last Thursday, July 24, the Committee on Environment and Public Works reported out the nomination.

Jamie Clark is an outstanding candidate for the tasks at hand. She has worked closely with the Environment Committee staff and Committee members' staff on the Endangered Species Act and other tough issues. I have heard nothing but glowing reports of her ability to work with the Administration and Congress, which will serve her well, if confirmed. Throughout her educational and professional experiences, she has been involved on a daily basis with the principles of fish and wildlife management. Jamie Clark has worked with the Fish and Wildlife Service for over 8 years, both at the regional level and at headquarters. For the past 4 years of her tenure with the Service, she has held the position of Associate Director of Ecological Services.

Prior to joining the Fish and Wildlife Service, Jamie Clark was the lead technical authority for fish and wildlife management on U.S. Army installations worldwide. From 1984 until 1988, she managed the Natural and Cultural Resources program within the National Guard. She also was a research biologist for the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute and worked for the National Institute for Urban Wildlife as a wildlife biologist.

Jamie Clark's educational background is equally impressive and suits her well to the position of Fish and Wildlife Service Director. She holds a master's degree (MS) in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Maryland and a bachelor's degree (BS) in Wildlife Biology.

If confirmed, Jamie Clark will be responsible for developing and carrying

out policies to conserve, protect, and enhance the Nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. A number of challenging tasks fall on the shoulders of the Fish and Wildlife Service Director, including the management of the National Wildlife Refuge System; the implementation of the Endangered Species Act; fish hatchery management; recreational fishing programs; management of non-indigenous and exotic species; conservation and management of migratory waterfowl and wild birds; and the list of responsibilities goes on.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is an agency with the wonderful but difficult task of serving as an advocate for fish and wildlife. It must protect these public resources in the face of much criticism and question. The Service is charged with fulfilling its own mission in light of competing and sometimes conflicting mandates. It also must address the contentious issues of private property rights, water rights, and takings. The Service has done a remarkable job in recent years of developing initiatives that deal with many of these issues. The internal guidance documents for permits; the new safe harbor, candidate conservation and "no-surprises" policies; the policy for Native American rights; and the streamlining initiatives for federal agencies have all led to better implementation of the Endangered Species Act, better public relations, and ultimately better protection for the species.

I am confident that Jamie Clark has the experience, insight, and the strength to lead the Fish and Wildlife Service to continue these initiatives and develop new ones through the challenges ahead. Thank you.

STATEMENT ON THE NOMINATION OF EDWARD GNEHM, JR.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, it is a great personal pleasure for me to express my congratulations to Ambassador Edward Gnehm, Jr. as the Senate completes its action on his nomination to be Director General of the Foreign Service. I have known Edward Gnehm, or Skip, as his friends call him, since the days when we were in college together. He and I were college roommates for 3 years. Skip has been a brother to me since we first met. I know him better than any investigator could hope—and there isn't anything I know I wouldn't share, from his sense of humor to his work ethic. Skip has always put God and Country first. He has lived a motto that says, "If what you did yesterday still seems important, you haven't done much today."

It doesn't seem all that long ago, we were both attending George Washington University here in the Nation's Capital. We used to dream about the future. I can tell you, we never dreamed that "someday" we'd both be before a congressional panel, me as the junior Senator from Wyoming, and Skip as the President's nominee for a key State Department post.

Through the years, we have kept track of each other. I have been very proud, but not surprised, that Skip has gone on to accomplish great things in his career with the State Department. I've lived around the world through my brother.

Skip has been a man for our time. A quick glance at Skip's duty sheet will show that whenever there has been a "hot spot" in the world community that warranted the careful attention of the State Department and a search for "the right one"—someone with a great sensitivity to a tense foreign situation and strong diplomatic skills to help find a solution—Skip was often the one they called.

To name a few of his tours of duty with the State Department, Skip has served in the Vietnamese Embassy, he has been in Nepal, and he has been stationed in many posts in the Middle East.

Skip was a part of the team that negotiated hostage releases. He has been in charge of evacuating Embassy families. Each change of administration has sought out his expertise, his counsel, and his active participation in our foreign policy. When Operation Desert Storm became necessary, once again Skip was there, serving as our Ambassador to Kuwait. You'll remember the proud moment when the American flag went back up at our Embassy—Skip was the person you saw raise the colors.

Most recently, Skip has been serving as the Deputy U.S. Representative to the United Nations.

Ambassador Gnehm is a man of great character, strongly held principles, and the greatest integrity you could hope to find. He has earned the respect of those he works with, and his counterparts in the foreign countries and Embassies in which he has been assigned.

Skip is the perfect choice for the Foreign Service. He has always seen the foreign service as his best chance to serve—to make a difference. And he has made a difference. He has the experience and the determination it takes to succeed. He's a proven leader who understands the need to follow orders and the direction of our foreign policy. He possesses the finest of administration skills. I have no doubt that the wealth of talent he possesses will enable him to lead with confidence. As always, Skip will do a fine job and produce results.

It is with great pleasure that I support his nomination.

NOMINATIONS OF GEORGE OMAS, JAMES ATKINS, AND JANICE LACHANCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we have had some others cleared. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate continue in executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar, the nominations of George Omas, James Atkins, and Janice Lachance which were reported from the Governmental Affairs Committee today, that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, any statements relating to the nominations

appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD

James H. Atkins, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board for a term expiring September 25, 2000.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Janice R. Lachance, of Virginia, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

POSTAL RATE COMMISSIONER

George A. Omas, of Mississippi, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Rate Commission for a term expiring October 14, 2000.

Mr. LOTT. I yield the floor.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

Mr. WARNER. Now, Mr. President, I will continue in the stead of the majority leader.

Mr. President, I am advised that the requests to be made on behalf of the majority leader by the Senator from Virginia have all been cleared and that we may proceed in the absence of anyone on the other side.

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NOS. 105-20 AND 105-21

Mr. WARNER. I now ask, Mr. President, as in executive session, unanimous consent that the Injunction of Secrecy be removed from the following treaties transmitted to the Senate on July 31, 1997, by the President of the United States:

Extradition Treaty with Barbados (Treaty Document No. 105-20); Extradition Treaty with Trinidad and Tobago (Treaty Document No. 105-21).

I further ask unanimous consent that the treaties be considered as having been read the first time; that they be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's messages be printed in the RECORD.

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

The messages of the President are as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Extradition Treaty between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Barbados, signed at Bridgetown on February 28, 1996.

In addition, I transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty. As the report explains, the Treaty will not require implementing legislation.

The provisions in this Treaty follow generally the form and content of ex-

tradition treaties recently concluded by the United States.

This Treaty will, upon entry into force, enhance cooperation between the law enforcement communities of both countries, and thereby make a significant contribution to international law enforcement efforts. It will supersede the Extradition Treaty between the United States and Great Britain that was signed at London on December 22, 1931, which was made applicable to Barbados upon its entry into force on June 24, 1935, and which the United States and Barbados have continued to apply following Barbados becoming independent. However, that treaty has become outmoded and the new Treaty will provide significant improvements.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty and give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 31, 1997.

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Extradition Treaty between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, signed at Port of Spain on March 4, 1996.

In addition, I transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty. As the report explains, the Treaty will not require implementing legislation.

The provisions in this Treaty follow generally the form and content of extradition treaties recently concluded by the United States.

This Treaty will, upon entry into force, enhance cooperation between the law enforcement communities of both countries and thereby make a significant contribution to international law enforcement efforts. Upon entry into force, it will supersede the Extradition Treaty between the United States and Great Britain signed at London on December 22, 1931, and made applicable to Trinidad and Tobago upon its entry into force on June 24, 1935, and which the United States and Trinidad and Tobago have continued to apply following Trinidad and Tobago's independence. That treaty has become outmoded, and the new Treaty will provide significant improvements.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty and give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 31, 1997.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President,