

SEC. 14. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6(d) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended to read as follows:

“(d)(1)(A) For purposes of applying the provisions of law identified in subparagraph (B)—

“(i) each Office of Inspector General shall be considered to be a separate agency; and

“(ii) the Inspector General who is the head of an office referred to in clause (i) shall, with respect to such office, have the functions, powers, and duties of an agency head or appointing authority under such provisions.

“(B) This paragraph applies with respect to the following provisions of title 5, United States Code:

“(i) Subchapter II of chapter 35.

“(ii) Sections 8335(b), 8336, 8344, 8414, 8468, and 8425(b).

“(iii) All provisions relating to the Senior Executive Service (as determined by the Office of Personnel Management), subject to paragraph (2).

“(2) For purposes of applying section 4507(b) of title 5, United States Code, paragraph (1)(A)(ii) shall be applied by substituting ‘the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (established by section 11 of the Inspector General Act) shall’ for ‘the Inspector General who is the head of an office referred to in clause (i) shall, with respect to such office,’.”

(b) AUTHORITY OF TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION TO PROTECT INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE EMPLOYEES.—Section 8D(k)(1)(C) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking “and the providing of physical security”.

SEC. 15. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 360 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Government Accountability Office shall submit a report examining the adequacy of mechanisms to ensure accountability of the Offices of Inspector General to—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall examine—

(A) the practices, policies, and procedures of the Integrity Committee of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (and its predecessor committee); and

(B) the practices, policies, and procedures of the Offices of Inspector General with respect to complaints by and about employees of any Office of Inspector General that are not within the jurisdiction of the Integrity Committee.

(b) PAY OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Government Accountability Office shall submit a report to the congressional committees of jurisdiction on the implementation of section 4.

NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH 2008

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 77 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 77) supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month 2008.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 77) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

S. CON. RES. 77

Whereas on average, a person is sexually assaulted in the United States every 2½ minutes;

Whereas the Department of Justice reports that 191,670 people in the United States were sexually assaulted in 2005;

Whereas 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men have been victims of rape or attempted rape;

Whereas the Department of Defense received 2,688 reports of sexual assault involving members of the Armed Forces in fiscal year 2007;

Whereas children and young adults are most at risk of sexual assault, as 44 percent of sexual assault victims are under the age of 18, and 80 percent are under the age of 30;

Whereas sexual assault affects women, men, and children of all racial, social, religious, age, ethnic, and economic groups in the United States;

Whereas only 41 percent of sexual assault victims pursue prosecution by reporting their attacks to law enforcement agencies;

Whereas ¾ of sexual crimes are committed by persons who are not strangers to the victims;

Whereas sexual assault survivors suffer emotional scars long after the physical scars have healed;

Whereas prevention education programs carried out by rape crisis and women's health centers have the potential to reduce the prevalence of sexual assault in their communities;

Whereas because of recent advances in DNA technology, law enforcement agencies now have the potential to identify the rapists in tens of thousands of unsolved rape cases;

Whereas aggressive prosecution can incarcerate rapists and therefore prevent them from committing further crimes;

Whereas free, confidential help is available to all survivors of sexual assault through the National Sexual Assault Hotline, more than 1,000 rape crisis centers across the United States, and other organizations that provide services to assist survivors of sexual assault; and

Whereas April is recognized as “National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month”; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That—

(1) it is the sense of Congress that—

(A) National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month provides a special opportunity to educate the people of the United States about sexual violence and to encourage the prevention of sexual assault, the improved treatment of its survivors, and the prosecution of its perpetrators;

(B) it is appropriate to properly acknowledge the more than 20,000,000 men and women who have survived sexual assault in the United States and salute the efforts of survivors, volunteers, and professionals who combat sexual assault;

(C) national and community organizations and private sector supporters should be recognized and applauded for their work in promoting awareness about sexual assault, providing information and treatment to its survivors, and increasing the number of successful prosecutions of its perpetrators; and

(D) public safety, law enforcement, and health professionals should be recognized and applauded for their hard work and innovative strategies to increase the percentage of sexual assault cases that result in the prosecution and incarceration of the offenders;

(2) Congress strongly recommends that national and community organizations, businesses in the private sector, colleges and universities, and the media promote, through National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, awareness of sexual violence and strategies to decrease the incidence of sexual assault; and

(3) Congress supports the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month 2008.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2008

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m., tomorrow morning, Thursday, April 24; following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that there then be a period of morning business for up to 60 minutes with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of S. 1315, the Veterans' Benefits Enhancement Act, as under the previous order.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator BROWNBACK.

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

The Senator from Kansas is recognized.

NOMINATION OF KATHLEEN STEPHENS AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH KOREA

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader for recognizing me and allowing me to speak this evening before we close down.

I want to put before the body a situation that is happening right now in North Korea. I put a hold on our nominee to be the Ambassador to the Republic of South Korea. I want to explain why I am doing that. I want to show why I am doing that. Then I want to raise some issues on human rights and why we need to be a lot more involved and pushy about what is taking place in North Korea.

I was encouraged last week in a meeting I had with the new President of South Korea, Mr. Lee Myung Bak, at a meeting hosted by the Senate leadership. I was encouraged to hear his interest in dealing with the human rights situation—or lack thereof, of human rights—in North Korea. He is going to be more willing to work with us than the last Korean administration in South Korea.

I was pleased to see his willingness to work with us and support us on the nuclear negotiations in which the Korean Peninsula would be a nuclear-free zone—although that is not the case. We have seen what North Korea has done in their willingness to proliferate. I told the President of South Korea—and he agreed—we must see real and verified results with the North Korean regime, not only on nuclear activities but also on the issue of human rights.

We are not seeing either. We are not seeing real and verifiable results on what they are doing in the nuclear development category. We are certainly not seeing it in the human rights category.

Without transparent improvement in human rights, and I believe the same on the nuclear issues as well, I told him the establishment of diplomatic relations would condone crimes against humanity on a massive scale. Without transparent distribution of humanitarian aid from the United States and outside world into North Korea, this aid would be used as a weapon of oppression and diverted from those in greatest need to those elites who get the most under the system.

These statements I made to him were well received, which is a change from the prior administration which sought a different policy toward North Korea, one they wanted to engage but certainly not address on these human rights and nuclear issues.

I met with our nominee to be the Ambassador to South Korea. I met with her twice. In two meetings with Ms. Stephens, the nominee, I gave her every opportunity to explain to me why she should be our next Ambassador to the Republic of South Korea and how she would address the human rights issues. She is certainly a qualified individual, spending her adult career in the State Department and international work. She is a highly qualified individual. Yet on how we are going to and if we are going to positively address the human rights concern and address it on a high scale—to where it is one of the top issues we are dealing with, not just one that, well,

once we deal with these others we will talk about human rights or we might bring it up—I did not get satisfactory answers from her, nor did I get those even from Secretary Rice, for whom I have great admiration, a week later, after my meetings with the nominee.

I asked her in the Senate Foreign Operations Appropriations hearing what specific “asks” we are making of North Korea on the human rights agenda. She didn’t say that we had particular items. Now maybe there are ones she is willing to identify. One I asked her specifically about is why don’t we ask the North Koreans to shut down the gulags, the political prisoner camps which I am going to showcase here. Why don’t we ask them to shut those down as an “ask,” putting those on the table? I didn’t get a response.

We are now approaching 4 years since the passage of the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004. I was willing to give the State Department and other agencies time to implement the act. I was willing to give those implementing the law, which included Ms. Stephens, our nominee to be the Ambassador to South Korea, the benefit of the doubt. I was willing to wait to see if the Department of State negotiators would be willing to confront the North Koreans regarding their human rights abuses. I wanted to see how much priority they would give to addressing the trafficking along the border between North Korea and China.

Today I met with a number of refugees from North Korea. If a woman crosses over that border looking for food in China, 100 percent are trafficked—they are caught and sold. That is taking place on that border today. I wanted to see if we would give priority to the trafficking issues or gain access to the gulags that dot the country or ensure the food aid would be strictly monitored. I am still waiting, as are many other individuals and groups working on North Korean issues, but my wait is not significant, nor is their wait. The 23 million North Koreans who are waiting are the ones who are dying. Many are desperately waiting in the gulags. I would like to show you these pictures today.

These pictures are from Google Earth. Google has made a witness of all of us, to no longer deny that these things exist and say they are classified photographs. You can go on Google Earth and look these up. The existence of these camps and the specific details have been confirmed by North Korean defectors living in South Korea.

Some are guards, others former prisoners in some camps that they were able to get out of. I would like to thank, in particular, Rev. Chun Ki Won for his assistance.

We now have no excuse for ignoring the truth of what many believe is a holocaust that is occurring in North Korea today. The U.S. Committee for Human Rights in North Korea believes that 400,000 have already died in these camps alone—400,000 have died in these

camps alone according to the U.S. Committee for Human Rights in North Korea.

If you listen to the defectors’ stories, as I have done on several occasions, the scale and depravity of the crimes that are committed in these camps rival those done by Pol Pot in Cambodia and even by the Nazis.

Too many of us refuse to confront this issue. Maybe we are afraid that confronting the atrocities of these camps would also require us to confront its urgent moral imperatives.

The first photo here is of Camp 22 where chemical experiments are alleged to have occurred. Camp 22 is in this picture. It is a huge concentration camp. It is over 400 square miles in size, a concentration camp.

No known prisoner has ever left the camp. The information we have has been from guards who have defected. No prisoner has been known to get out of this camp alive. The guards we contacted were able to identify its electric fences and moats. They were able to point out the huts where its prisoners live, the coal mines where men are worked to death, and the forests and fields where the dead are not buried, they are discarded.

Former guard Kwon Hyuk claims the fences around Camp 22 are about 2.5 meters high and electrified with 3,300 volts of electricity. He also says the camp is surrounded by land mines and spiked moats.

If you look carefully at the center of this next picture, of the courtyard at the middle of the guard station, you will see what appears to be a group of people coming in. This is the entry gate—a group of people going in to whatever fate we do not know.

Outside the gates, life for North Koreans, such as it is, goes on. This year is said to be an especially difficult one in this part of North Korea, but the farmers outside the gate are still luckier than those inside.

Farmers cannot pretend not to know what goes on beyond the fence. One recent defector who lived just outside Camp 22 told his American English teacher how the guards from his camp would come to his house and search for scarce food and alcohol, and how drunken guards would confess remorsefully to the cruelties they inflicted on the prisoners.

The teacher published his recollection in the Washington Post last year, which I ask unanimous consent be made part of the RECORD and printed at the end of my statement.

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

(See exhibit 1).

Mr. BROWNBACK. This next picture is the Chungbong Coal Mine in Camp 22. I described Camp 22. It is over 400 square miles. Its main features are coal and forest mining. Ahn Myong Chol, a former guard and driver at Camp 22, described the working conditions in this mine. Prisoners work two shifts a day on meager rations. They are organized

into five-person teams and are encouraged to earn rewards and supplement the starvation rations by informing on each other. Prisoners are beaten frequently, sometimes to death, and often for no reason at all. This is according to a former guard in Camp 22.

They work in cramped, narrow shafts. Accidents and cave-ins kill many prisoners. Those who are injured are sent to a hospital without qualified staff or medical supplies, and they are essentially left to die. Others die of exhaustion as they try to meet daily quotas. Those who fail to meet the quotas are not fed.

Now, there are dozens of these camps all over North Korea. I want to show you some locations of the various gulags that are known throughout North Korea. We now have corroborated reports from multiple sources of the kind of depravity that continues in these camps to this day.

Why not, in our Six Party negotiations and talks that we have going on today, that one of our primary "asks," along with dealing with the nuclear issue, be to shut the gulag system down? It is a very clear, a very specific "ask." We have evidence from Google Earth. I believe we have much better satellite photographs that go into this in even more detail.

There are hundreds of North Koreans who have fled now into South Korea, a few into this country, with evidence, who are speaking about this issue. So they know and can corroborate what we are seeing in the pictures.

Why not confront the North Koreans with it on an equal par with the nuclear negotiations? I think to do this advances our cause overall.

In the Soviet Union, when we were dealing with them on nuclear disarmament, one of the key things we asked for is, well, with the human rights agenda, put it up right there beside it. People are saying: Do not do that. You are going to upset the balance. But when you talk with the people who were in the prison system, and you hear their statements about it, they were saying that what gave them heart was they knew someone on the outside world was paying attention to them.

It also delegitimized the Soviet Union because as long as you are going at the nuclear issue, the Government in North Korea says, "They are just trying to disarm us." And "They have got it, this is something that we as North Koreans deserve."

But when you say: What about the Chungbong Coal Mine and the people dying there every day; what about Camp 22 where you are having people going into this all of the time but nobody ever comes out; if you raise that, it delegitimizes the regime, it makes them confront their own people about what they are doing. And that is a more powerful tool. Why would we not raise that? This was my question to our nominee. Why are we not raising that?

It seems as if the desire to get something on the nuclear side is so much greater than that on the human rights side, that this one is set: OK, when we get the nuclear one dealt with, we will deal with this. But in the meantime, people are dying, a lot of them. And this goes on. It continues at a time when we would look at those things and say: My goodness, this is 2008. This does not go on in the world today. You have pictures. You can go on Google Earth and see it.

I think we have to raise this issue. I think it is important in our negotiations for us to raise this issue. We have expressed our horror at what has taken place in various places around the world and said, "never again." We have said it about concentration camps. Yet it is going on here and we have a negotiation and we are not even making it a major issue. So I believe we need to step up and we need to push this issue.

The final point I would like to make about this is that the Chinese are complicit in this as well. They are the ones who could put the most pressure of any country in the world outside of Korea on the North Koreans. They are the ones who have the economic relations. They are the ones who are the protector of North Korea. When people escape out of one of these camps or try looking for food in China, they are caught by the Chinese and repatriated to an uncertain fate, likely death, often imprisonment, and they are sent back against the Chinese requirements of what they had signed in the U.N. Human Rights Commission Agreement in 1951, an agreement that China is a signatory of that says they will not send people back into a death camp situation or where their health would be challenged or would be likely harmed or that they would be killed.

Clearly, that is taking place over there, and China continues to do it. So on top of what they are doing in Tibet and what they are doing in North Korea, on top of what they are doing in Sudan, enabling the Sudanese Government to continue this in Darfur and buying oil out of Sudan and backing reform in the United Nations, on top of that and pursuing resources out of the Congo, regardless of what sorts of abuses are taking place by the groups or the militias stealing the resources to take them out through China, regardless of what is taking place in Burma where the Chinese are blocking and supporting the Burmese and then they are pushing people out, the Korean people are being pushed into Thailand, but they are not citizens of Thailand so they are being trafficked from that point. The Chinese are the ones who are complicit in all of this. They are the great enabler of human rights abuses around the world today, in their own country and externally. They bear a huge responsibility for what is taking place today in North Korea.

I hope this continues to be expressed and brought up—I plan to do so—prior to the Olympics this year, which

should be a celebration of great athleticism. I believe it will be. But as China seeks to exploit this as a presentation of their coming forward in the world, I hope the world notices what else they are doing. They are hosting a grand Olympics, but they are hosting a greater catastrophe of human rights abuses in their country and around the world. Whether it is Tibetans or people in the house church movement, Falun Gong members being arrested, North Koreans, Burmese, Sudanese, Congolese, they lay at the doorstep of the Chinese.

I think we need to confront this. I am hopeful the administration will address this. I know the President personally cares very deeply about human rights abuses in North Korea. He has met individually with people who have come out of North Korea. I talked directly with him about it. I don't think we are seeing the administration meet the President's greatest desires on addressing this issue. That is why I put a hold on Kathleen Stephens being Ambassador to the Republic of Korea until we begin to address these issues.

I yield the floor.

EXHIBIT 1

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 1, 2007]

ESCAPE FROM DEAR LEADER TO MY CLASSROOM IN SEOUL

(By Samuel Songhoon Lee)

SEOUL.— At a small restaurant in late February, my student and I ate spicy noodle soup and stared at a huge TV showing the extravagant celebration of Kim Jong Il's 65th birthday in Pyongyang. Thousands of smiling people paraded across the North Korean capital and saluted their Dear Leader.

"I was once there," my student said. "But even as I danced and smiled, I knew of a better life outside." She said this matter-of-factly and turned to stir her tea. Her search for that better life had brought her here, at age 13, to Seoul, and to my English class at a special school for young North Korean defectors.

The school has more than two dozen students, members of a growing contingent of North Koreans who have deserted that communist country since famines in the mid-1990s killed more than 2 million people. According to South Korea's Ministry of Unification, 41 North Korean defectors arrived in South Korea in 1995. The number increased to 312 in 2000, and to 1,383 in 2005, many of them young people.

It isn't easy for these young defectors to fit into South Korean schools and fill the gaps in their education. Most schools here don't offer transition courses on the differences in language and culture. But catching up with schoolwork is only one problem they face.

In South Korea, a country that withstood centuries of invasions from its Chinese and Japanese neighbors, unity defines survival. And without ethnic diversity or a history of immigration, unity means conformity. When something becomes fashionable here, it can have significant consequences. For example, South Korea has the world's highest ratio of cosmetic surgeons to citizens, catering to the legions of girls who receive eyelid surgery as a present for their 16th birthday. This culture of unity and conformity is vastly different from the one I experienced growing up Korean American in New York, Denver and Seattle. The lack of diversity at school makes the young defectors instant

standouts—subject to 15 minutes of fame and adulation, then an enduring period of isolation. When their peers ask about their accent—noticeably different from what's common in Seoul—most students say they're from Gangwon Province, in the northeastern part of the country.

Facing ostracism from South Korean students, many young North Korean defectors drop out of school. According to a ministry report in 2005, 43 percent of young defectors were attending school, and 29 percent had dropped out of middle and high schools. Almost half of the 198 young defectors still attending school said that they hid their background from classmates, according to a survey by the National Human Rights Commission.

"Don't expect them to be like us just because they look Korean and speak Korean," the principal told me on the orientation day for volunteer teachers at School 34, an independent school for defectors. "Treat them like foreigners, but with respect."

I was assigned to teach two English classes to students ages 15 to 27. When I introduced myself, they were as puzzled and curious about me as I was about them. An oversized Korean American with big Sony headphones—was I really one of them?

Taking the principal's advice, I made it clear from the start that I was not, and that I probably could not understand the obstacles they had to overcome to reach the free world. Many feel deeply betrayed by Kim and the propaganda they were forced to learn. But they have achieved a surprising distance from their painful past. They share memories—which include watching public executions and boiling grass to eat in times of famine—as if they were reciting folk tales with a sense of wonder and humor.

Among my students, one young man stood out because of his motivation to learn English. His family is still in North Korea, and he wants to earn the \$15,000 in payoffs it would take to get them to Seoul. Numerous underground railroads established by brokers in China make rescuing family members from North Korea possible, he told me—if one has the money. "I can work hard for two years and make that money. But I will lag behind in my study. Then what can I do even if my family were to come here?" he said.

In North Korea, he knew exactly what he wanted to do: become an officer in the North Korean army. He dreamed of killing as many Americans and South Koreans as he could. In his childhood home, a framed photo of his grandfather and Kim was prominently displayed on the living room wall. His family was part of North Korea's small and reclusive elite society, and he would have marched off as an army lieutenant if he hadn't received a black-market Sony Walkman for his 15th birthday and listened to forbidden South Korean radio frequencies.

Late at night, muffling the scratchy signal so as not to get caught, he tuned in to the news, learning that much of what he was taught all day in school was a lie. "We learned that the Americans were constantly trying to invade us. But from the South Korean news, I learned that it was the other way around. But my classmates truly believed in what we were learning. They were like robots."

When he graduated from high school and was ordered to serve 13 years in the military, he decided to defect. His father bribed the North Korean border patrolmen, who took him to China. Because the Chinese government regularly repatriated North Korean refugees, South Korean missionaries took him to Myanmar, where Seoul's consulate prepared the papers for his final journey to South Korea.

Soon after arriving in Seoul, he found School 34 and a community of others like

him. Most students were too poor to have bribed their way out. Instead, they had braved often frigid waters to swim across the Tumen River to China.

Another student, a good-humored young woman, lost her parents to starvation before she turned 11. To survive, she said, she crossed the Tumen many times to obtain food and other goods in China that she could sell on North Korea's widespread black market. When she defected, she went as far as Xinyang, in China's southeastern Henan Province. Discovered by Chinese agents, she was repatriated and served six months in prison. She was 13 at the time. After being released, she swam across the river again and this time she stayed in China, begging for food. Eventually, missionaries helped her get to Seoul.

One recent School 34 graduate is now studying at Sungkyunkwan University, one of the nation's top colleges. He grew up a few minutes away from one of North Korea's most notorious political prisons, Prison 22 in Hyeryung, Ham-Kyung Province, at the northern tip of North Korea. Because food and alcohol are scarce in the countryside, the prison guards went to his house for libations. "They always drank heavily," he told me. "And when they got drunk, they would mumble about how sorry they felt for what they did to prisoners."

Despite his rare glimpse of the prison guards and knowledge of what they did, my student says he finds it difficult to raise awareness about the little-known gulags of North Korea among his classmates in Seoul. Most do not care, he says. Or worse, they take a pro-North Korea stance. President Roh Moo Hyun has been passionately calling for the ouster of the 37,000 U.S. troops in South Korea, and a wave of anti-American sentiment is sweeping across college campuses. After eight years of the dubious "sunshine policy," which advocated engagement with rather than containment of the communist north, South Korean public sentiment favors neglecting thousands of North Korean refugees in China and pouring cash and aid into Pyongyang, even with Kim's apparent nuclear ambitions.

"Back in North Korea, we learned to hate and fear America," a 17-year-old student who attended middle school in North Korea told me one recent afternoon over sodas at McDonald's. His father was once responsible for importing and distributing Soviet arms to the North Korean army. But he defected to South Korea two years ago after his father was purged. "Now, I've realized that all I learned was a series of lies," he said, taking a bite of his Big Mac. "I wish my friends back in North Korea could eat this one day."

We left McDonald's shortly and went back to School 34 to study English.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 24, 2008.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:32 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, April 24, 2008, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

C. STEVEN MCGANN, OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND

PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE FIJI ISLANDS, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU, THE KINGDOM OF TONGA, TUVALU, AND THE REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI.

T. VANCE MCMAHAN, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN AND INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASSES INDICATED:

CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR:
CARMINE G. D'ALOISIO, OF NEW JERSEY
JOHN J. FOGARASI, OF TEXAS
CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:
ROBERT L. FARRIS, OF FLORIDA
MARGARET A. HANSON-MUSE, OF MARYLAND
JOSEPH B. KAESSHAFFER, JR., OF FLORIDA
RICHARD C. REED, OF VIRGINIA
JUDY R. REINKE, OF VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JEFFREY LEIGH SEDGWICK, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE REGINA B. SCHOFIELD, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

CHRISTINE O. HILL, OF GEORGIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS), VICE THOMAS E. HARVEY, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

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

To be general

LT. GEN. WILLIAM M. FRASER III

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

To be general

LT. GEN. DONALD J. HOFFMAN

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

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. PAUL J. SELVA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE CHIEF OF AIR FORCE RESERVE AND APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 8038:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. CHARLES E. STENNER, JR.

IN THE NAVY

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

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. WILLIAM E. GORTNEY

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

To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. MELVIN G. WILLIAMS, JR.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY VETERINARY CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be major

CHERYL AMYX

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be major

DEBORAH K. SIRRATT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE