

and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 21, 2012.

PN1494 NAVY nomination of Jason A. Langham, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 21, 2012.

PN1495 NAVY nomination of Will J. Chambers, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 21, 2012.

PN1496 NAVY nominations (4) beginning PATRICK J. FOX, JR., and ending LESLIE H. TRIPPE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 21, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Monday, May 7, 2012, at 4:30 p.m., the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 508, 568, and 569; that there be 60 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

REMEMBERING MATTILOU SEXTON CATCHPOLE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, an incredible woman died late last month after a hard fought battle with Alzheimer's disease—a woman who gave her life to help and teach others. A former University of Illinois Springfield professor, Dr. Mattilou Sexton Catchpole, passed away at the age of 88.

Mattilou was born on Halloween day in Chicago, IL, but grew up in Texarkana, AR. Her parents gave her a strong moral background and an appreciation for justice. As active participants in the Arkansas civil rights movement, they taught her that social justice, equitable educational opportunities, and equal rights for all were of the utmost importance.

She enlisted in the Air Force during World War II and served as a medical technician stateside. While post-traumatic stress disorder was not categorized as a medical condition, Mattilou knew that many of the returning soldiers experienced hell. She soon realized that quiet conversations and a caring touch helped to heal the wounds that she couldn't see.

Still caring for others, she first became a registered nurse and then a certified registered nurse anesthetist, or CRNA. While raising three children and suffering from sometimes debilitating back pain, she worked as a CRNA at the Cleveland Clinic and obtained bachelor's and master's degrees at Case Western Reserve University.

She came to my hometown of Springfield, IL, to teach at the university in 1978, and in no time finished her doctorate in health education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Dr. Catchpole became the director of the Nurse Anesthesia Program and Nurse Anesthesia Completion Program in Springfield. She spent the rest of her life teaching at the university and writing.

At the age of 78, Dr. Catchpole was named the 2002 Kayaker of the Year by the Missouri Whitewater Association. Physical fitness and the outdoors were very important to her. It was swimming that enabled her to build the strength and leave behind a full-body cast that doctors thought she would wear for most of her adult life because of back pain. In 2006, at the age of 82, Mattilou was one of 18 recipients of the President's Call to Service Awards for over 5,000 hours of service with Health Volunteers Overseas. You could always rely on Mattilou to lend a helping hand to someone in need or to teach a person all that she knew about a subject.

I offer my deepest condolences to her family, her brother, U.A. Garred Sexton; her three children, Julia Ann, Nancy, and Floyd; and her eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Mattilou's passing is a deep loss for so many, but her hard work, accomplishments, and students will continue to carry on.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR CHARLES LONG

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to my good friend Mr. Charles Long, the longtime mayor of Booneville, KY. Mr. LONG has served as mayor of this small Owsley County town for 53 years. During his tenure, he has worked to provide a better life for the citizens of Booneville by providing exceptional opportunities for various daily improvements, as well as working to make vital amenities more easily accessible to all.

One of the most significant accomplishments of Mayor Long's time in office has to do with developments he oversaw in the area of water and sanitation. The mayor oversaw the installation of the town's water and sewer

system in 1968. Afterwards, he went on to guarantee that over 98 percent of Owsley County had access to the water system and worked to see the sewage system expanded to over 400 residents in the county.

Mayor Long serves on the Kentucky River Area Development Committee—KRADD. The mayor's home county of Owsley is one of the eight counties in eastern Kentucky that KRADD supervises. The organization has been a major force in further developing the rural areas of eastern Kentucky, and Mayor Long is an integral part of that process.

Besides the hard work Mayor Long does for the people of Booneville, he is known for being a beloved and involved member of his large family. His children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren are all very proud of him and all he has accomplished.

Sadly, Charles recently lost the love of his life and wife of 72 years, Virginia Ruth Long. Mrs. Long passed away on March 27, 2012, at the age of 92. During a recent session of the Kentucky State Senate, she was honored by a Senate Resolution commemorating her life and accomplishments. I know Mayor Long surely appreciated that gesture.

Charles Long has literally spent the majority of his life serving the local people of Booneville as their mayor. He is able to look back at his long and successful career and reminisce on the countless improvements he has put in place for the city he holds dear to his heart. Mr. Charles Long exhibits a commendable display of characteristics such as dedication, kindness, and reliability which set him apart as a true hometown hero.

I am honored to stand on the floor of the U.S. Senate today in tribute to Mayor Charles Long's service to the town of Booneville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. And I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in expressing recognition to Mayor Long for his long and fruitful tenure in office.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to a column published in the April 23rd edition of The Washington Post by Dr. Henry Kissinger and retired GEN Brent Scowcroft. These are two of the most respected voices on nuclear strategy, deterrence, and arms control, and they both recently testified on the New START treaty.

The article, titled "Strategic Stability in Today's Nuclear World," comes at an important time. The President, we know, has tasked his advisors to conduct an assessment of our nuclear forces and strategy to inform future arms reductions beyond the levels established by the New START treaty. The administration is said to be considering reductions that could lead to as few as 300 warheads, which would require rather significant changes to long-standing U.S. nuclear doctrine.

Dr. Kissinger and General Scowcroft warn that:

Before momentum builds on that basis, we feel obliged to stress our conviction that the

goal of future negotiations should be strategic stability and that lower numbers of weapons should be a consequence of strategic analysis, not an abstract preconceived determination.

In fact, the authors go on to warn the reader that:

Strategic stability is not inherent with low numbers of nuclear weapons; indeed, excessively low numbers could lead to a situation in which surprise attacks are conceivable.

This short column should be required reading for all of my colleagues, and the eight key criteria listed by the authors, to govern nuclear weapons policy, should become the basis for our consideration of nuclear strategy and arms control moving forward.

I want to express my deep appreciation to Dr. Kissinger and General Scowcroft for their important contributions to our ongoing debates about nuclear weapons and, more broadly, for their decades of service to our country.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have the article printed in the RECORD at the end of my remarks.

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

[From the Washington Post, April 23, 2012]

STRATEGIC STABILITY IN TODAY'S NUCLEAR WORLD

(By Henry A. Kissinger and Brent Scowcroft)

A New START treaty reestablishing the process of nuclear arms control has recently taken effect. Combined with reductions in the U.S. defense budget, this will bring the number of nuclear weapons in the United States to the lowest overall level since the 1950s. The Obama administration is said to be considering negotiations for a new round of nuclear reductions to bring about ceilings as low as 300 warheads. Before momentum builds on that basis, we feel obliged to stress our conviction that the goal of future negotiations should be strategic stability and that lower numbers of weapons should be a consequence of strategic analysis, not an abstract preconceived determination.

Regardless of one's vision of the ultimate future of nuclear weapons, the overarching goal of contemporary U.S. nuclear policy must be to ensure that nuclear weapons are never used. Strategic stability is not inherent with low numbers of weapons; indeed, excessively low numbers could lead to a situation in which surprise attacks are conceivable.

We supported ratification of the START treaty. We favor verification of agreed reductions and procedures that enhance predictability and transparency. One of us (Kissinger) has supported working toward the elimination of nuclear weapons, albeit with the proviso that a series of verifiable intermediate steps that maintain stability precede such an end point and that every stage of the process be fully transparent and verifiable.

The precondition of the next phase of U.S. nuclear weapons policy must be to enhance and enshrine the strategic stability that has preserved global peace and prevented the use of nuclear weapons for two generations.

Eight key facts should govern such a policy:

First, strategic stability requires maintaining strategic forces of sufficient size and composition that a first strike cannot reduce retaliation to a level acceptable to the aggressor.

Second, in assessing the level of unacceptable damage, the United States cannot assume that a potential enemy will adhere to values or calculations identical to our own. We need a sufficient number of weapons to pose a threat to what potential aggressors value under every conceivable circumstance. We should avoid strategic analysis by mirror-imaging.

Third, the composition of our strategic forces cannot be defined by numbers alone. It also depends on the type of delivery vehicles and their mix. If the composition of the U.S. deterrent force is modified as a result of reduction, agreement or for other reasons, a sufficient variety must be retained, together with a robust supporting command and control system, so as to guarantee that a pre-emptive attack cannot succeed.

Fourth, in deciding on force levels and lower numbers, verification is crucial. Particularly important is a determination of what level of uncertainty threatens the calculation of stability. At present, that level is well within the capabilities of the existing verification systems. We must be certain that projected levels maintain—and when possible, reinforce—that confidence.

Fifth, the global nonproliferation regime has been weakened to a point where some of the proliferating countries are reported to have arsenals of more than 100 weapons. And these arsenals are growing. At what lower U.S. levels could these arsenals constitute a strategic threat? What will be their strategic impact if deterrence breaks down in the overall strategic relationship? Does this prospect open up the risk of hostile alliances between countries whose forces individually are not adequate to challenge strategic stability but that combined might overthrow the nuclear equation?

Sixth, this suggests that, below a level yet to be established, nuclear reductions cannot be confined to Russia and the United States. As the countries with the two largest nuclear arsenals, Russia and the United States have a special responsibility. But other countries need to be brought into the discussion when substantial reductions from existing START levels are on the international agenda.

Seventh, strategic stability will be affected by other factors, such as missile defenses and the roles and numbers of tactical nuclear weapons, which are not now subject to agreed limitations. Precision-guided large conventional warheads on long-range delivery vehicles provide another challenge to stability. The interrelationship among these elements must be taken into account in future negotiations.

Eighth, we must see to it that countries that have relied on American nuclear protection maintain their confidence in the U.S. capability for deterrence. If that confidence falters, they may be tempted by accommodation to their adversaries or independent nuclear capabilities.

Nuclear weapons will continue to influence the international landscape as part of strategy and an aspect of negotiation. The lessons learned throughout seven decades need to continue to govern the future.

PASSAGE OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, the following statement is from Senator Birch Bayh in honor of the 40th anniversary of Congressional passage of the Equal Rights Amendment:

Recent events have seen an assault on those who provide health care services to women and we have even seen questions

raised anew about issues like contraception. It may have been 40 years since we passed the ERA in Congress but the reasons why many of us tried to write women's rights into the Constitution are still with us today.

As the Chief Senate Sponsor and floor leader of the Equal Rights Amendment, I remember well the intensity of the battle we fought in the early 1970's. America's history has been a steady expansion of individual rights, beginning with the expansion of the franchise in our early years. From the rights of former slaves after the Civil War to the expansion of the vote for women and then for 18 year olds, we have codified in our Constitution an ongoing commitment to individual rights. It seemed fitting then, and seems fitting now, that our Constitution speak loudly and clearly that the law allow no discrimination on the basis of gender.

While the principles involved in this battle remain, the country has evolved quite a bit since 1972. In 1972 there were 2 women in the U.S. Senate and 13 in the House of Representatives. Now there are 17 women Senators and 75 Congresswomen. There were no female Governors in 1972 and had been only 3 in all our history before that, there are 6 now. We have had a female Speaker of the House and have scores of CEOs, business owners and leaders in all walks of life who are female. The number of women elected to state legislatures across the country is larger than ever before. The number of women in the military cannot be compared to the numbers 40 years ago. And in a recent issue of Newsweek, long-time Supreme Court reporter Nina Totenberg spoke about taking the job at NPR in the 70s because the pay was too low for men to want the job.

There has indeed been progress, but the principles remain the same. To open the sports pages in the morning is to see female athletes in a number of sports. To watch the television news in the evening has us watching many female anchor persons, weather ladies, and sports announcers. Even the major sports telecasts regularly involve on-air female broadcasters. But is there equal pay for equal work today? Are there still obstacles on the professional paths to boardrooms for women? Is sexual harassment still a prominent issue in offices around America and in our military?

It is still fitting in the 21st century for our nation to include in its basic law the principle that discrimination based on sex has no place in American life. It is fitting for our daughters and granddaughters to be reminded that their parents and grandparents took a stand to protect their futures and to ensure that they have an equal place in modern America.

In closing, let me stress that the ERA is still the right thing to do, not only in principle but in every day practice. Thank you for your continued, dedicated efforts.

RECOGNIZING THE GREATER BRIDGEPORT YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I commend the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestras, GBYO, as it celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. This legendary local group currently at a membership of 250 students of all ages from 29 different communities around the city of Bridgeport, who participate in 5 different ensembles—has bestowed the gift of great music and mentorship to the State of Connecticut. Through the platform of an orchestra, these young musicians have learned how to support each