

Sheldon Whitehouse, Elizabeth Warren, Debbie Stabenow, Tom Harkin, Tom Udall.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Andre Birotte, Jr., of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 56, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 234 Ex.]

YEAS—56

Baldwin	Harkin	Murray
Begich	Heinrich	Nelson
Bennet	Heitkamp	Pryor
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reed
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Boxer	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Landrieu	Shaheen
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Levin	Tester
Collins	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Markey	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Walsh
Durbin	Menendez	Warner
Feinstein	Merkley	Warren
Franken	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murkowski	Wyden
Hagan	Murphy	

NAYS—43

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Chambliss	Hoeven	Scott
Coats	Inhofe	Sessions
Coburn	Isakson	Shelby
Cochran	Johanns	Thune
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Cornyn	Kirk	Vitter
Crapo	Lee	Wicker
Cruz	McCain	
Enzi	McConnell	

NOT VOTING—1

Rockefeller

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 56, the nays are 43. The motion is agreed to.

**NOMINATION OF ANDRE BIROTTE, JR., TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Andre Birotte, Jr., of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to the vote.

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. This is Judge Robin Rosenberg who comes through this nonpartisan judicial nominating process Senator RUBIO and I have set up. Senator RUBIO and I certainly commend her for our Members' favorable consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back.

CLOTURE MOTION

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Robin L. Rosenberg, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Jack Reed, Tim Kaine, Angus S. King, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Bill Nelson, Jon Tester, Patty Murray, Claire McCaskill, Benjamin L. Cardin, Mark Begich, Sheldon Whitehouse, Elizabeth Warren, Debbie Stabenow, Tom Harkin, Tom Udall.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Robin L. Rosenberg, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 58, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 235 Ex.]

YEAS—58

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Rubio
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Collins	Markey	Udall (CO)
Coons	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Menendez	Walsh
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Feinstein	Mikulski	Warren
Franken	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

NAYS—42

Alexander	Enzi	McCain
Ayotte	Fischer	McConnell
Barrasso	Flake	Moran
Blunt	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Portman
Burr	Hatch	Risch
Chambliss	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Coburn	Inhofe	Sessions
Cochran	Isakson	Shelby
Corker	Johanns	Thune
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Crapo	Kirk	Vitter
Cruz	Lee	Wicker

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote the yeas are 58,

the nays are 42. The motion is agreed to.

**NOMINATION OF ROBIN L. ROSENBERG TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Robin L. Rosenberg, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 2 minutes equally divided prior to the next cloture vote.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that time be yielded back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of John W. deGravelles, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Patty Murray, Elizabeth Warren, Charles E. Schumer, Jack Reed, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Angus S. King, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin, Mazie Hirono, Richard Blumenthal, Amy Klobuchar, Christopher Murphy, Cory A. Booker, Martin Heinrich.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of John W. deGravelles, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 57, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 236 Ex.]

YEAS—57

Baldwin	Blumenthal	Brown
Begich	Booker	Cantwell
Bennet	Boxer	Cardin

Carper	King	Reid
Casey	Klobuchar	Rockefeller
Collins	Landrieu	Sanders
Coons	Leahy	Schatz
Donnelly	Manchin	Schumer
Durbin	Markey	Shaheen
Feinstein	McCaskill	Stabenow
Franken	Menendez	Tester
Gillibrand	Merkley	Udall (CO)
Hagan	Mikulski	Udall (NM)
Harkin	Murkowski	Vitter
Heinrich	Murphy	Walsh
Heitkamp	Murray	Warner
Hirono	Nelson	Warren
Johnson (SD)	Pryor	Whitehouse
Kaine	Reed	Wyden

NAYS—39

Alexander	Cruz	McConnell
Ayotte	Fischer	Moran
Barrasso	Flake	Paul
Blunt	Graham	Portman
Boozman	Grassley	Risch
Burr	Hatch	Roberts
Chambliss	Hoeven	Rubio
Coats	Inhofe	Scott
Coburn	Johanns	Sessions
Cochran	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Corker	Kirk	Thune
Cornyn	Lee	Toomey
Crapo	McCain	Wicker

NOT VOTING—4

Enzi	Isakson
Heller	Levin

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 57, the nays are 39. The motion is agreed to.

NOMINATION OF JOHN W. DEGRAVELLES TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk reported the nomination of John W. deGravelles, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 12:30 p.m. will be equally divided and controlled in the usual form.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

MALAYSIA AIRLINES TRAGEDY

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I wish to comment on the tragedy of the civilian airliner shot out of the sky by a Russian surface-to-air missile, cutting short the lives of 298 innocent civilians. Parents, children and spouses of victims have expressed deep anguish, and we all feel their grief.

All of us agree the images we are seeing from the crash site are heart-breaking and sickening. President Obama, Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, leaders throughout the world, and many others have expressed their outrage at the vicious, uncivilized act that took place at 33,000 feet over the country of Ukraine. A few days ago, British Prime Minister David Cameron stated firmly:

For too long there has been a reluctance on the part of too many European countries to face up to the implications of what is happening in eastern Ukraine. . . . Elegant forms of words and fine communiques are no substitute for real action. The weapons and fighters being funneled across the border be-

tween Russia and eastern Ukraine; the support to the militias; the half-truths, the bluster, the delays. They have to stop.

As the prime minister acknowledged: This is a moment when words of condemnation and expressions of grief are simply not enough. This is a moment when action must follow the outrage and rhetorical condemnation.

The tragedy of Malaysian Airlines 17 will be a defining event in history. It is a defining event for Russia, first and foremost, and for its President, Vladimir Putin. It is no secret that Putin has imperial ambitions, motivated by his pathological insecurities, and a quest to restore lost glory to Mother Russia. These are dangerous delusions. If they are not confronted firmly, they will come to threaten us all.

But it is also a defining event for the United States and its European allies. The festering danger in Ukraine is the result of the civilized world's faltering half-steps as a meager, timid and all too minimal response to Russia's invasion of a neighbor in violation of sovereign borders. This is an opportunity for American leadership, in step with our European allies, to spur the community of nations to act together and be a force for good and be a force for the right change that needs to take place—not later, but now.

It is a defining event for President Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel. Today these two leaders, the two who are most able to influence this situation, can stand up and demonstrate leadership that will shape history. So this is a pivotal moment—a pivotal moment for the United States, for Germany, for the European Union and for the world. Given the significance of this event in this moment, what are we to do? I do not have all the answers. I have been suggesting harsh sanctions, sanctions that bite, that hit Russia hard ever since their invasion of Crimea.

As I have said earlier, what has been done is far too short of what needs to be done to punish Russia for the breach of sovereignty and now this brutal and terrible tragic result and consequence of what they are doing in eastern Ukraine. So first we need to ask the entire civilized world to join the United States, our European allies, and everyone in condemning this outrageous act.

Events like this tragedy have no place in the modern world. This unsailable fact needs to be acknowledged globally and more than once. It needs to be acknowledged repeatedly until it becomes so loud that Putin and the Russians can hear it in Moscow and in the Kremlin and see that what has taken place is the direct result of their engagement in eastern Ukraine.

Secondly, I think we need to demand complete cooperation with the ongoing investigation. Positive steps are beginning to take place far too late, but at least they are starting to take place.

Our commitment to the rule of law, rules of evidence, and to the demands

of justice require that we go through this investigative process, and we must insist on the access to do so. We must demand full, immediate, unhindered access to the site of the tragedy, including all parts of the aircraft, missile battery, site evidence and, most of all, proper treatment of the remains of the many victims. President Putin by himself can ensure that success and that access, and he absolutely must be required to do so.

Third, we need to demand an immediate Russian stand-down in Ukraine. Crimes like Malaysia Airlines flight 17 can only happen in such a lawless wasteland—renegades and desperados with their fingers on the triggers of the world's most advanced weapons. Lawlessness reigns in eastern Ukraine because the government of that nation still does not have sovereign control of its own territory.

The situation is greatly exacerbated as a result of President Putin's outrageous territorial aggression. He has already severed an arm of Ukraine and threatened an entire country's disintegration.

Make no mistake, the Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine have been organized, motivated, trained, equipped, unleashed, guided, and controlled by the forces of the Russian Federation which are controlled themselves—with totalitarian execution—by none other than President Vladimir Putin. Now we see a new tragic result of this aggression, of sponsorship, of ruthless renegades—a blatant act of terrorism inflicted on innocent people. This problem will only get worse unless we demand that Russian behavior change and Putin's aggression stop. It needs to be a voice that resounds from every nation, civilized nation, in the world.

The only solution to the Ukraine problem is doing what is consistent with our national law. The demands of order and civility and the requirements of justice are what Russia must acknowledge and that the Government of Ukraine must have sovereign control over its own territory.

No. 4, the United States and Europe must, at last, act vigorously and in unison if we are to succeed in this effort. Until now, President Obama has sent largely weak signals to Putin about the seriousness of Russia's actions. Our European partners have been reluctant to act, some hypnotized by anxiety about their economic dependency on Russian oil and gas. Let us hope that after this horrific act of terror against 298 innocent passengers on Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, this view is changing and changing quickly.

History will see this event as a watershed moment. Some argue that the Soviet downing of Korean Airlines flight 007 in 1983 was an event that exposed the true nature of the Soviet regime and hastened its decay. Similarly, Malaysia Airlines flight 17 reveals to any remaining doubters the nature of Putin and his brutal ambitions and ruthlessness.