

be a judge who will try to rewrite it. She is eminently qualified to serve, and I urge all my colleagues to vote to confirm her nomination.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Whitney D. Hermendorfer, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

VOTE ON HERMENDORFER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hermendorfer nomination?

Mr. MORAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. CURTIS), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN), and the Senator from Vermont (MR. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 46, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 384 Ex.]

YEAS—46

Banks	Crapo	Johnson
Barrasso	Cruz	Justice
Blackburn	Daines	Kennedy
Boozman	Ernst	Lankford
Britt	Fischer	Lummis
Budd	Graham	Marshall
Capito	Grassley	McConnell
Cassidy	Hagerty	Moody
Collins	Hawley	Moran
Cornyn	Hoeven	Moreno
Cotton	Husted	Mullin
Cramer	Hyde-Smith	Ricketts

Risch	Sheehy	Wicker
Schmitt	Thune	Young
Scott (FL)	Tillis	
Scott (SC)	Tuberville	

NAYS—42

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Peters
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schiff
Booker	Kim	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Coons	Klobuchar	Smith
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Markey	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warnock
Gallego	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden

NOT VOTING—12

Curtis	Murkowski	Rounds
Fetterman	Murray	Slotkin
Lee	Paul	Sullivan
McCormick	Rosen	Welch

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The majority leader.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the pending nomination be waived.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 65, Luke Pettit, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

John Thune, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John R. Curtis, Rick Scott of Florida, Bernie Moreno, Pete Ricketts, Eric Schmitt, Jon A. Husted, Roger Marshall, Jim Justice, Tommy Tuberville, Bill Hagerty, Joni Ernst, James E. Risch, Marsha Blackburn, Tim Sheehy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Luke Pettit, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, 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. BARRASSO. The following senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. CURTIS), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK),

the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN), and the Senator from Vermont (MR. WELCH) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 60, nays 28, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 385 Ex.]

YEAS—60

Alsobrooks	Graham	Moreno
Banks	Grassley	Mullin
Barrasso	Hagerty	Peters
Blackburn	Hassan	Reed
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeven	Risch
Budd	Husted	Schiff
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kelly	Shaheen
Cotton	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cramer	Kim	Thune
Crapo	Klobuchar	Tillis
Cruz	Lankford	Tuberville
Daines	Lummis	Warner
Durbin	Marshall	Warnock
Ernst	McConnell	Whitehouse
Fischer	Moody	Wicker
Gillibrand	Moran	Young

NAYS—28

Baldwin	Heinrich	Padilla
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kaine	Schumer
Booker	King	Smith
Cantwell	Lujan	Van Hollen
Coons	Markey	Warren
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Wyden
Duckworth	Murphy	
Gallego	Ossoff	

NOT VOTING—12

Curtis	Murkowski	Rounds
Fetterman	Murray	Slotkin
Lee	Paul	Sullivan
McCormick	Rosen	Welch

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 60 and the nays are 28, and the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Luke Pettit, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in 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 COLONEL CARLYLE "SMITTY" HARRIS (RET.)

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, it is a profound honor to pay tribute to the late U.S. Air Force Colonel Carlyle Smith "Smitty" Harris of Tupelo, Mississippi, an American hero who spent 8 years as a Prisoner of War in Vietnam.

A courageous Air Force pilot who was shot down behind enemy lines, he displayed remarkable bravery and heroism enduring torture, solitary confinement, and abuse in the infamous "Hanoi Hilton."

Colonel Harris' strength and determination left an indelible mark on American history. Carlyle "Smitty" Harris enlisted in the Air Force in January 1951 and earned his pilot wings in 1953. After years of advanced pilot training and as a flight instructor, he was stationed at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan, in 1964.

On April 4, 1965, while flying the F-105 fighter-bomber over North Vietnam, his plane was shot down behind enemy lines. He was captured immediately and forced to march to the nearest village, surrounded by angry and armed captors. He had no idea what horrors awaited him in the infamous Hoa Lo prison, better known to most Americans by its nickname: the "Hanoi Hilton."

As the sixth American pilot captured in the air war over North Vietnam, Colonel Harris joined the ranks of hundreds of other American prisoners of war, including future Senator John McCain and Medal of Honor recipient George "Bud" Day, who would suffer years of brutal captivity. While imprisoned, Colonel Harris displayed profound ingenuity and resilience. He recalled the Tap Code—an old World War II-era method of communication by tapping on water pipes—and teaching it to his fellow POWs. The Tap Code became a vital lifeline for the POWs, allowing them to maintain contact, boost morale, and resist their North Vietnamese captors' efforts to isolate them. Colonel Harris is credited with helping to save hundreds of lives by preserving the prisoners' sanity and fostering a sense of unity amid brutal conditions. His sacrifice, endurance, and leadership exemplify the highest ideals of service and heroism.

Equally inspiring is the strength and faith of his wife Louise Lambert Harris, who gave birth to their third child just 42 days after her husband's capture. Through all the years of uncertainty and separation, Louise remained a steadfast source of hope, not only for her own family but for other POW families as well. Her encouragement and support served as a beacon for others enduring similar hardship.

Colonel Harris was finally released from captivity on February 12, 1973, and retired from the Air Force in 1979. For his bravery and service over the course of his military career, he earned numerous decorations, including two Silver Stars, three Legion of Merits, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two

Bronze Stars for valor, two Air Medals, two Purple Hearts, and two Commendation Medals.

After his release from captivity and meeting his 8-year-old son for the first time and reuniting with his two daughters who were now young ladies, Harris and Louise vowed never to waste another day. They faithfully kept that vow, constantly living life to the fullest and cherishing their lives together. Following his service, this son of Mississippi earned degrees in law and banking. He became a community leader and an advocate for veterans and youth. In 2019, he wrote the bestselling book, "Tap Code, The Epic Survival Tale of a Vietnam POW and the Secret Code That Changed Everything."

Colonel Carlyle "Smitty" Harris, a man of deep faith, passed away on Sunday, July 6, 2025, in Tupelo, MS. He was a true Mississippi hero whose courageous service helped preserve the freedoms we enjoy today.

I join everyone from around the Nation who honor Smitty Harris' extraordinary life, his legacy of resilience, and his contributions to our Nation. I also express my deepest condolences to Louise, their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

May Colonel Carlyle "Smitty" Harris' story continue to inspire future generations to serve with honor, courage, and compassion.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LESTER CROWN

• Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I rise to celebrate the 100th birthday of Lester Crown on June 7, 2025. Lester Crown is a dedicated leader, philanthropist, entrepreneur, activist, father, son, husband, and—to me—a loyal and cherished friend.

Rooted in the Crown family and their business is a tradition to support Illinois' economy and its people. From a young age, Lester became a familiar face in the family's construction business, Material Service Corporation, MSC. Deciding to further his passions in science and business, Lester graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in chemical engineering and Harvard University with a master of business administration. Following his education on the east coast, Lester decided to come home to Illinois and began to work full-time at MSC, eventually becoming the company's CEO. After MSC merged with General Dynamics, Lester continued in a leadership role and served on the board until 2006. With Lester's leadership, the company acquired stakes in companies that have had an outsized role in our State and Nation, including real estate, finance, telecommunication, and even our favorite Chicago Bulls.

Those who know Lester have seen his passion for service and philanthropy up close. He continues to champion causes

that provide Chicagoans—and all Illinoisans—the opportunity to prosper. Through Crown Family Philanthropies, he works to advance just and lasting social impact in Chicago and far beyond, and his decades-long dedication to the Jewish community has been exemplary. In recognition of his continued work, Lester has received many awards, including the Order of Lincoln, the highest award bestowed by the State of Illinois, Making History Award from the Chicago History Museum, the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy, and the Blessed are the Peacemakers Award from the Catholic Theological Union.

Lester has made a profound impact through business, philanthropy, and service to his fellow citizens. Please join me in wishing Lester a wonderful 100th birthday.●

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE DANBY

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, over the course of my career in public service, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with—and sometimes being on the receiving end of interrogation by—hard-working, thoughtful members of the Maine press corps. They work day-in and day-out to keep us government officials honest—and to keep members of the Maine public informed. There are few, however, that have had quite as much lasting impact on all of us as George Danby.

George Danby began his career as a journalism cartoonist 50 years ago today—never mind that he was still a high school student. On July 14, 1975, he began his storied career at the Bangor Daily News when he submitted an illustration to them that they wisely accepted. Over the years, he has drawn thousands of cartoons spotlighting not just leaders in Maine, but also critical story lines and public figures from around the world.

He has drawn nine sitting Presidents and seven Governors. As a former Governor of Maine, I have been stung my fair share by his sharp pen and wit. But humor gets us all and Danby's incredible cartoons have hung in my offices throughout various points of my career. Years ago, I even said that Danby "has the uncanny knack, essential to the cartoonist's art, of getting to the essence of the matter in a way that's memorable, accurate and usually funny (if being the butt of a joke published in the state's largest newspaper is your idea of funny)."

And he is not just a visual communicator. In addition to his drawing skills, Danby has a thoughtful way with words. He is one of the few people who you can sit down with, disagree, and still find a way to move forward. In fact, he was no stranger to controversy. Yet, each time he drew a cartoon with searing commentary on the latest headlines, he found a way to open Maine readers' eyes and minds—and, in doing so, moving Maine's dialogue forward.