

Hours after Secretary Brown's plane crashed into that mountain, I was on another plane with Senators HATCH and REID. We spent 9 days in Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia and four neighboring states, assessing progress in the implementation of the Dayton peace plan.

Every world leader with whom I met stressed the importance of both promoting economic growth and building democratic institutions to achieving a sustainable peace in the Balkans. Those were the very goals to which Ron Brown's trip to Bosnia was dedicated.

In an article I read, a woman who had worked with Secretary Brown said it wasn't just that he saw a glass half-full when others saw it half-empty. His optimism was bigger than that. Where others saw a half-empty glass, she said, he saw a glass overflowing with possibilities.

It would take that kind of vision to see the path to a lasting peace in Bosnia.

Ron Brown was able to see that path. And, he was able to make others see it.

He was a good salesman. What he sold was America—not just American goods and services, but American ideals.

The reason he could sell America with such confidence is that he believed in America, and in the goal of making America—and the world—better.

Ron Brown spent his life transcending boundaries.

Boundaries of race.

Boundaries of party.

Boundaries drawn on maps.

And in transcending those boundaries, he made them less formidable for all of us. That is part of the great legacy he has left us.

I have been reminded these last few days of a scene in the Shakespearean play, Julius Caesar. It is the scene at Caesar's burial. Caesar has just been falsely maligned by Brutus as a traitor.

Then Mark Antony rises to recall the Caesar he knew.

He was, Mark Antony said, a man who loved his country so much he gave his life for it.

Then he stunned the crowd by reading them Caesar's will. He had left all of his possessions to the people of Rome.

Even more precious, he had left his fellow citizens a legacy of greatness

and the ability, to quote Shakespeare, "to walk abroad and recreate yourselves."

Ron Brown and the men and women on that plane died trying to recreate the American spirit of democracy and opportunity in a land torn apart by war.

It is right that we offer these tributes to them. But, in the end, the best tribute we can pay them is to keep alive their determination to recreate what is best about America wherever people long for freedom and justice and opportunity.

Let us today rededicate ourselves to that noble cause.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia is recognized.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to commend the distinguished Democrat leader for his remarks. I would like to ask unanimous consent that I might add just a few comments of my own.

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

TRIBUTE TO COMMERCE SECRETARY RON BROWN

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I, too, like the distinguished minority leader, remember where I was when this tragic message came. I first thought to myself that not too many months prior thereto I was with our distinguished colleague on a similar mission in that region. Senator BOB KERREY and I were over there, and we actually landed at the same airport. This was my fifth trip. I was the very first Senator to make a trip to Sarajevo some more than 3½ years ago. The thought came to my mind where the Secretary had given his life, together with the aircrews'—aircrews that all of us have traveled with. I traveled with those crews and their predecessors for 20-plus years formerly as Secretary of the Navy and now in the U.S. Senate. They are a very dedicated and well trained group of officers and enlisted men. The finest the Air Force has, really, are dedicated to those missions. Those aircraft are somewhat old, but they are well kept. They are not palatial.

Of course, with the Secretary were a very distinguished group of Americans from the private sector, and journalists

also, who were going to examine that war-torn region, to help provide for those less fortunate than ourselves, who have suffered the tragedies of that conflict, a conflict of which to this day, although I have studied it, I cannot understand the root causes.

But, nevertheless, I had known the Secretary. While we are of opposite political persuasions, I always remember him as a man of great humor. I never saw him without a twinkle in his eye. Always he put forward his hand. There were several stressful periods in his life and I always stretched out my hand, because those of us in public office know from time to time there are periods that put us to the test. But he met the tests and he served his Nation.

I join the distinguished minority leader and my colleagues in paying our tribute to him as a fine American, to the aircrews, to all passengers who were on that plane. We give our heartfelt compassion to the families that must survive this tragedy and go on to lead constructive and meaningful lives.

Mr. President, I thank the Chair and distinguished minority leader.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:15 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate, under the previous order, will stand adjourned until 9:15 a.m., Wednesday, April 17, 1996.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:55 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 17, 1996, at 9:15 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate April 16, 1996:

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

DAVID J. BARRAM, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF GENERAL SERVICES, VICE ROGER W. JOHNSON, RESIGNED.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

HUBERT T. BELL, JR., OF ALABAMA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, VICE DAVID C. WILLIAMS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JOHN CHRISTIAN KORNBLUM, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE, VICE RICHARD HOLBROOKE, RESIGNED.

BARBARA MILLS LARKIN, OF IOWA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE, VICE WENDY RUTH SHERMAN, RESIGNED.