

the courage to stand on the battlefield or the wisdom to sit across a conference table with diplomats have, once again, sought to impose their own will on the people of Israel.

I rise on the floor of the Senate to express all of our sympathies for the families of the victims, the people of Israel, and to Prime Minister Netanyahu.

I know in all of us, there is not only a prayerful sorrow, but also a great anger. The sacrifices and the works and the hopes of so many might be dashed by these few who would impose their will. The best message may not simply be our prayers or our condolences. Perhaps, Mr. President, as Americans, we are best to respond to this tragedy as Americans have always responded to those who act in violence and with such irresponsible actions. Our best message may be our uncompromising determination to pursue peace.

It is, after all, the interruption of the peace process that terrorists desire the most. If they had a coherent argument that had intellectual weight, they would have sought an entry into the peace process to make their arguments to diplomats. If they could make a coherent case to either the electorate in Israel or the people of the Palestinian Authority, they would have taken their case through a democratic process to those peoples. Their terrorist actions are the best evidence that they have no such arguments. They can make no such case. They, indeed, do not have confidence themselves in the strength of their own positions.

In responding to this terrorist action, President Clinton made clear that the United States will not be dissuaded, that we are not led away or apart from our current policy of seeking a peaceful resolution to events in the Middle East. I believe that President Clinton, when he speaks these words, represents all of us.

It is, therefore, only right and proper that, when the mourning ends and the dead are buried, our diplomats return to the Middle East with all dispatch. If it was the intention of the administration that they were to return in several days, the best message to the terrorists is that they return sooner. If it was their intention to remain a month, it is the best message to the terrorists that they should remain 2 months. If it was the intention of this Congress to continue American assistance to Israel for several years, the best message to

these terrorists is, it shall continue for more years.

There are those through the years who do not understand the United States. They think that because we are a patient and a reasonable people, inclined towards peace and willing to talk, that we lack strength or resolve. Those who know our history, watched our actions, or understand us and our culture the best know that, in fact, nothing could be further from the truth. We are a people of enormous resolve. That resolve will best be demonstrated in the coming days when this administration sends our diplomats back to the negotiating table, this Congress continues with our commitments to Israel, and we make clear we will not be separated from our ambition of a strong and free Israel, with a Middle East with a lasting peace.

To the Palestinian Authority and its leader, Yasser Arafat, we are all grateful that Mr. Arafat has expressed to Prime Minister Netanyahu and to the families of the victims his condolences. It is, however, on this occasion, not enough. The best expression of condolence to the victims and to the people of Israel is for Mr. Arafat to renew his commitment to the peace process without condition. It is not enough simply to express regret at the suffering of those who are victims or for Mr. Arafat to express his commitment to find those responsible and to cooperate with the Israeli authorities.

It is also not enough to cooperate because of the deeds of this day, but to assure that tomorrow, and in all days that follow, the Palestinian Authority security forces will cooperate with Israeli law enforcement to share intelligence information, to open her borders and her files to ensure that this deed that has been suffered upon the people of Israel is not repeated.

Mr. President, the people of Israel have suffered on many such days. Terrorism has not become the exception, but sometimes it seems the rule of the politics of the Middle East.

In Israel, like in America, we are misunderstood. This much should be clear: There is no terrorist action so great, no number of victims so large, that the people of Israel will be convinced to compromise on the needs of their basic security, their determination that they and their children will live in an undivided Jerusalem. At times we seem so close to peace and yet more victims, more sacrifice is asked.

Wherever these terrorists might be hiding tonight, whatever cave may conceal their cowardice, let this much be clear: Israel will remain free, Jerusalem will remain Israeli, the future will be secured. And if the sacrifice of the people of Israel through all these years has not convinced these terrorists, or those who would follow them, of that fact, then add this to the equation: The U.S. Congress, this Senate in representation of all the people of the United States, are determined to make it so as well.

Mr. President, our prayers, our heartfelt sorrow go to the families of the victims of all the people of Israel. May the future at long last be different than the past.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW AT 9:15 A.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:15 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 8:11 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, July 31, 1997, at 9:15 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate July 30, 1997:

THE JUDICIARY

SUSAN GRABER, OF OREGON, TO BE U.S. CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, VICE EDWARD LEAVY, RETIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PETER L. SCHER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS SPECIAL TRADE NEGOTIATOR.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

MARY ANNE SULLIVAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE ROBERT RIGGS NORDHAUS, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

ELA YAZZIE-KING, OF ARIZONA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 17, 1999. (REAPPOINTMENT)

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. JAMES P. CZEKANSKI, 0000.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JOHN G. MEYER, JR., 0000.

BRIG. GEN. ROBERT L. NABORS, 0000.