

Mr. BYRD. Yes.

Mr. CHAFEE. As manager, normally I would be the first, the one who would be recognized first, under that. I don't want to waive that.

Mr. BYRD. I ask unanimous consent that after Mr. CHAFEE is recognized, in that order, after the two leaders, then Mr. CHAFEE, if I could be recognized?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the unanimous consent request by the Senator from Alabama? Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Alabama is recognized for up to 20 minutes.

Is there objection to the unanimous consent request by the Senator from West Virginia, that he would follow the Senator from Rhode Island? If not, it is so ordered.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the distinguished Senator from Alabama for his characteristic courtesy.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, at this point I yield 2 minutes of my time to the distinguished Senator from Idaho.

NUCLEAR WASTE

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, today Richard Wilson, who is the Assistant Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air and Radiation, has announced that they have given preliminary certification to the waste isolation pilot plant in Carlsbad, NM. To Idaho and to the Nation, this is good news, because for the first time in decades we are on the threshold of beginning to move radioactive waste to a permanent repository, and the waste isolation pilot plant in Carlsbad will handle the transuranic waste, a majority of which is stored in my State of Idaho. This is consistent with an agreement that DOE struck with the State of Idaho over a year ago. EPA's action today is also consistent with a request by Congress that EPA review the facility in Carlsbad, NM, to make sure that it met the standards that we had asked for human safety, environmental protection, and of course dealing with any potential radiation. They believe it does not. Now they must go to the public process.

We hope they will move as quickly as possible in that, because Idaho and the rest of the country deserves to know that by 1998 we will begin to see nuclear waste moving to a safe, permanent repository that this Government and this Senate has asked for well over a decade ago.

I thank my colleague from Alabama for yielding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished Senator from Florida.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida is recognized.

LET LIVAN BE SEEN

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, tonight millions of Americans will settle into

their easy chairs to watch game 5 of the World Series. They will see 22-year-old Cuban-born pitching sensation Livan Hernandez take the mound in his second World Series start for the Florida Marlins.

And for the first time in this Series, the people of Cuba may have the opportunity to join the millions around the world to cheer Livan. Thanks to the graciousness of Major League Baseball and interim Commissioner Bud Selig—Radio and TV Marti will broadcast tonight's game to the people of Cuba.

Now it is up to Fidel Castro to allow his people to watch their hero pitch. Cuba has consistently jammed Marti's broadcast signal. But tonight should be different. Tonight should be special because it is Livan's night.

Mr. Castro, I have a message for you from the American people and baseball fans everywhere: Stop the jamming. Let Livan be seen in Cuba.

For the good of your people and for the good of the game we all love so dearly, please, let Livan be seen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

UNITED STATES-CHINA SUMMIT

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, this weekend, Chinese President Jiang Zemin arrives in the United States for the first state visit by a Chinese official since 1985. As you know, China has been described by many experts as the No. 1 foreign policy challenge that the United States will face in the 21st century. Next week's summit will help set our course as we respond to that challenge.

I have traveled to China six times since I first visited in 1983. Most recently, I traveled to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong during the August recess where I met with numerous senior Chinese leaders, including the Chinese Foreign Minister.

In my many visits and contacts, I have witnessed the enormous, and overall positive, changes that have taken place in China since the death of Mao. Yet, while China today is clearly not the China of the cultural revolution, neither is it a "former Communist country," as President Clinton has suggested.

As chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, I am especially interested in Chinese foreign and military policies and Chinese intelligence activities, particularly those that pose potential threats to vital American interests. Last month, I convened in the Intelligence Committee exhaustive hearings into Chinese threats to United States national security, including the reported Chinese plan to influence United States elections.

I am well aware that there is no country that poses such risks, such opportunities, and such dilemmas for United States foreign and security policy. It is clear that China today, as an emerging economic and military power

in the post-cold war, has the option, and increasingly the will, to challenge vital United States interests around the globe.

It is equally clear that despite the demise of communism virtually everywhere around the globe, and despite China's extensive and impressive economic liberalization, the Chinese regime remains determined to maintain its repressive domestic political system.

I will shortly address these issues in greater detail, but, first, I would like to make just a few general points.

When President Clinton meets with President Jiang, he will have the opportunity to define the United States-China relationship in a way that defends vital United States interests and promotes the values upon which our country was founded, while recognizing at the same time legitimate Chinese interests and aspirations.

But President Clinton, I believe, must make it clear that if China wishes to be accepted as a responsible world power, it must act as a responsible world power. If China wishes to work together to promote peace and stability in the region and the world at large, as President Jiang suggested in a press interview last weekend, it must not undermine peace and stability in Asia and around the world by reckless and aggressive actions. And President Jiang, I believe, is wrong when he invokes, for example, Einstein and the theory of relativity to justify China's refusal to comply with norms and ideals which, while not yet universal, are on the march worldwide.

Relativity, as most of you know, is an immutable law of physics. Relativism is something altogether different, and it is not a concept to which we as Americans subscribe.

President Clinton, I believe, must respectfully make it clear that the President of China is wrong when he says that "democracy and human rights are relative concepts and not absolute and general."

Our Founding Fathers did not speak in relative terms when they wrote:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

The courageous demonstrators in Tiananmen Square echoed these ideals when they tried to peacefully exercise their right of consent. They adopted our Statue of Liberty as their symbol, and we saw it brutally destroyed by Chinese tanks on TV.

In one final general point, we sometimes hear the refrain from the Chinese that they do not wish to be bound by sets of rules and norms that they had no say in creating.

There are certain truths that are not limited by time and geography, and the "inalienable Rights" spoken of by the