

There are other issues, including Burma sanctions, that we will likely address over the course of the day and tomorrow.

Finally, I would reiterate the need to finish the Defense appropriations measure. It is a priority for completion, and we need to work together to get that bill passed before the July 4 recess. We have spent 4 weeks on the Defense authorization where Senators have debated the issues and had ample opportunity to bring issues to the floor on defense and debate those. Thus, we should be able to proceed expeditiously on the Defense appropriations bill. It is now time to make sure we have the appropriate resources to support our troops, and we will continue to move forward.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time determined by the majority leader, with the concurrence of the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Executive Calendar No. 591, the nomination of Diane Sykes to be a U.S. Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit. I further ask unanimous consent that there be 60 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form and that following that debate, the Senate proceed to a vote on the confirmation of the nomination with no intervening action or debate; provided further that immediately following that vote, the Senate proceed to a vote on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 604, Peter Hall to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, again with no intervening action or debate. I finally ask consent that following these votes, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

Mr. FRIST. I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF JOHN C. DANFORTH TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

NOMINATION OF JOHN C. DANFORTH TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY, AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will go into executive session for consideration en bloc of the following nominations which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of John C. Danforth, of Missouri, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations; John C. Danforth of Missouri, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 1 hour of debate equally divided on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri is recognized.

Mr. BOND. Madam President, on behalf of the manager of the nomination, the Senator from Indiana, I yield myself 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BOND. Madam President, it is a privilege to rise today to commend to this body the confirmation of an individual whom I have had the honor of calling a colleague for over 30 years, and someone Members of this body have known for a long time. That is our good friend, former Senator John C. Danforth. There was something very delicious about the fact that the clerk noted he will become Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. That kind of sums it up.

Jack Danforth is an outstanding individual who will be having great responsibilities serving the United States as Ambassador at the United Nations.

Most of us who are familiar with Jack know of his many accomplishments and attributes. But there is one quality that always comes to mind when you ask people what do you know about or what do you think about when

you think of Jack Danforth? The people who have worked with him and have had an opportunity to watch him would say one word: integrity. This is a man of great integrity, as well as dedication and compassion, and even a dry sense of humor, when appropriate.

Senator Danforth was born in St. Louis County and graduated from St. Louis Country Day High School. He graduated from Princeton University in 1958, and then Yale University Law School and Divinity School in 1963. He was admitted to practice in New York in 1963, and that same year he was ordained as part of the clergy of the Episcopal Church. As we all recently saw, he participated in the services honoring our late, great President Ronald Reagan.

I have been to many services conducted by Rev. John C. Danforth. One that particularly affected this body was the memorial service for our late colleague, John Heinz, the Senator from Pennsylvania. I can tell you, when we went to Pittsburgh for those services, there were many very deeply hurt and troubled Senators. There is not much one would think could be said, but Jack Danforth was able to bring us together and give us hope and help lighten the burden of that loss.

In addition, obviously, to being a clergyman, Jack began his political career in 1969, serving as Attorney General of Missouri, using his legal background. I had the privilege to serve as an assistant attorney general under him and was grateful for the opportunity to be there, to learn the high standards he set and demanded not only for himself but for everybody who worked for him.

In the Senate, to which he was elected in 1976, he served as chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. He served on the Finance Committee and undertook many important responsibilities. He was a leader in the passage of the civil rights legislation that was enacted by the Congress. He went back to Missouri to resume the practice of law in St. Louis. Really, I think he went back to spend more time with his wonderful wife Sally, who is a tremendous friend to many of us who have a chance to know her, and his grandchildren, and also to watch Cardinal baseball.

Jack was called upon by President Bush to broker peace in the civil war in Sudan that had claimed some 2 million lives. He worked tirelessly and committed himself to improving the lives of others. He demonstrated once again to the U.S.—and this time to the world—his ability to understand and simplify complex political problems.

About 2 weeks ago, he called me at my home in Missouri and said: The President asked me to take on another assignment. I said: Jack, I hope it is not as dangerous an assignment as Sudan. He said: No, he asked me to be representative to the United Nations. I said: I think that may be less dangerous, I am not sure. We certainly hope it will be.

But I told him I could not think of someone who is better able to serve the United States. When our reputation and status in the world is being questioned—I happen to think unfairly and incorrectly—it is a matter of fact that we need a man of Jack Danforth's fairness and integrity to represent us in the U.N., to reach out to other nations. He will know when to assert our Nation's sovereignty and how to do so with a spirit of humbleness and cooperation, as he has shown me. I ask this body to confirm him unanimously.

I suggest the absence of a quorum and ask that the time be charged equally to both sides.

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

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, I yield myself as much time as I may require for this statement from the time allocated to our side.

Madam President, today the Senate will have the opportunity to consider many nominations for diplomatic posts of some very talented Americans who have made themselves available for public service—some as a career, and others for temporary periods—and who have come before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in formal hearings, and whom the committee has sent to the floor for action by the Senate. It is my hope these nominations will be acted upon favorably today.

It is important to our country that these ambassadors and representatives to various other international organizations be in place as rapidly as possible. In an often-changing and sometimes dangerous world, we need that leadership. Our committee has tried to act in an expeditious manner to provide a fair degree of certainty to Senators, and a confidence level that these are good nominees who will represent our country well.

Prominent among those whom we recommend today is our former colleague, Senator John Danforth of Missouri. It is a great pleasure for me to address the nomination of Senator Danforth before the Senate now in this specific debate on his nomination. As a result of his three distinguished terms as a Senator from Missouri, he is well known to many Members of the Senate and to the Committee on Foreign Relations. It turns out that eight of us served with Senator Danforth in this body. We were able to identify ourselves during the hearing.

I had the privilege of coming into the Senate with Senator Danforth after the election of 1976, sworn in early in January, and had the pleasure of serving with him throughout the 18 years of his tenure.

After entering with Senator Danforth, as did Senator PAUL SARBANES of

Maryland and Senator ORRIN HATCH of Utah, in what was a large class of Senators—eight Democrats and eight Republicans coming in as new Senators from the election of 1976—those of us who had the privilege of serving with him can certainly attest to his integrity, his intellect, his sound judgment, and his good humor.

President Bush has made a very wise choice, in my judgment, for an extremely important position. The Committee on Foreign Relations signaled its agreement by voting him out of committee unanimously last Tuesday.

I will mention parenthetically that in a meeting at the White House this morning, President Bush asked specifically for consideration for the leadership on the part of those of us on both sides of the aisle to make certain we are represented at the United Nations as our now-Ambassador to the United Nations, Ambassador Negroonte, goes on to these very important responsibilities in setting up the new embassy in Iraq.

The job before Senator Danforth is a daunting one that will require all of his talents and his experience. As the Security Council vote 2 weeks ago on Iraq demonstrated, critical decisions are being made at the United Nations that have a huge impact on the outcome in Iraq, on the welfare of our troops there, and on peace in the world.

Success in Iraq is unlikely to be achieved without the active cooperation of many other nations, reinforced by the international legitimacy that can be secured and underlined at the United Nations.

Beyond Iraq, that same week, the United Nations Security Council met to discuss sanctions on Liberia, the peacekeeping mission in Cyprus, and weapons of mass destruction generally. Other United Nations bodies addressed in that same week issues as divergent as women's rights, the need for greater access to potable water in this world, efforts to expand freedom of expression, and the role that primary education plays in childhood development. The United Nations remains the focal point of our multilateral diplomacy on so many fronts.

Being U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations requires one not only to deal with policies and politics in New York, it requires one to manage these same issues back here in Washington where many in Congress are sometimes skeptical of the United Nations procedures.

Our U.N. Ambassador must be able to explain to Congress why it is important to pay our dues and to pay them on time, and why peacekeeping operations can benefit the United States. Every U.N. peacekeeper in the Congo, Haiti, and East Timor allows U.S. troops to focus on our missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere.

At the same time, our Ambassador must be a forceful spokesperson for greater efficiency and transparency at the United Nations and an intolerance of corruption at the United Nations.

The recent revelations regarding the Oil-for-Food Program remind us that close oversight must be part of our role at the U.N.

Senator Danforth's years of experience in Washington ensure that he will keep Congress informed about U.S. policies at the U.N. His talents as a bridgebuilder and a communicator will serve him well as he seeks to articulate both to the world and to the Congress the nuances of his work in New York.

Since leaving the Senate, Senator John Danforth has continued his commitment to public service. From 1999 to 2001, he headed the independent inquiry into the Branch Davidian standoff at Waco, TX. Since September of 2001, he has served as President Bush's special envoy for peace in troubled Sudan where he has devoted his time and his talents to reducing the suffering in that troubled nation.

In this capacity, he has made seven trips to Sudan and other nations in the region. This experience will be particularly useful when the United Nations Security Council begins debate on whether to send peacekeepers to try to maintain the fragile peace framework signed in Nairobi on June 5. We wish him success in this endeavor and pray this framework evolves into a formal peace agreement that finally ends the civil war that has resulted in more than 2 million deaths and over 4 million displaced persons.

The United States and the United Nations must work together in Sudan, Iraq, Haiti, Afghanistan, and many other trouble spots throughout the world. American credibility in the world, progress in the war on terrorism, and our relationships with our allies will be greatly affected by what can be accomplished at the United Nations in the coming months and years.

Senator Danforth is eminently qualified to meet these and other challenges. We recognize the deep personal commitment necessary to undertake this difficult assignment. We are grateful that a leader of his stature is willing to step forward. I recommend Senator John Danforth to the full Senate and ask my colleagues to send him on his way to New York with a unanimous vote.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. BIDEN. Madam President, I wish to join my colleague, the chairman of the full committee, today in support of the nomination of an old friend, Jack Danforth, to be Ambassador to the United Nations. As many of us, I have known Jack for a lot of years, and I have an inordinately high regard for him. The one point I continue to marvel at, but I am not at all surprised at, is that he keeps answering the call. Every tough job he is asked to do—in or out of government—he steps up to the plate and he does it. I think having Jack Danforth at the United Nations is going to be a very positive thing.

People say we should have professional diplomats. Jack Danforth is a professional diplomat. Jack Danforth is the ultimate professional diplomat. Jack Danforth knows how people think. From his years as an ordained minister, as a Senator, and an attorney general of his State, he knows how people think and feel and move. But, Madam President, do you know what I like best about Jack Danforth going to the United Nations? He will be absolutely straight—absolutely straight.

I have an incredibly high regard for Ambassador Negroponte, for whom I voted to become Ambassador to Iraq, probably the toughest job in the bag these days. This is not meant as a reflection on Ambassador Negroponte. But Jack Danforth has the stature to go to the President and say: Mr. President, I disagree; I think you should not. Or “I would recommend the following.” He has the stature, just because of who Jack Danforth is—just because he knows. There are some men and women who just possess it. He possesses it. He has the stature. We know the expression, “command presence.” Jack Danforth has command presence. What makes me feel good is the President is going to get unvarnished advice from Jack. Jack is a team player. Jack is a supporter of the President. Jack feels strongly that the President’s mission is correct. But Jack will also, if he disagrees, not hesitate one minute to, in my view, privately tell the President. I think every President is best served when he has women and men around him with the conviction to tell the President honestly what they think.

When you walk into that White House, when you walk into that Oval Office, it is an intimidating place if you do not walk in with your shoulders back, your head up, and understand what your responsibility is. That is the quality in Jack that I am excited about in his going to the United Nations.

He also has stature, in my view, to turn to the French or Chinese or British Ambassadors, for example, and privately say: Look, cut this stuff this is what we have to get done. This is how we should try to work this.

I think stature matters in this job—at this moment, at this time, and in this administration. I think Jack Danforth has always stepped up to the critical moments in recent history. As the June 30 deadline for transfer of sovereignty in Iraq occurs very shortly, Iraq is one of many urgent issues on the United Nations agenda. There are many others: Sudan, Afghanistan, Haiti, just to name three.

The administration seems to have finally discovered the virtue of the United Nations. That sounds like a bit of a snide remark for me to stand here and say that the administration “finally discovered.” But literally, I say “finally,” because this administration ran for office and came to office expressing verbally, in writing and in their actions—it would be extreme to

say “disdain” but not a particularly high regard for the United Nations. However, since then, the President has honored the United Nations by going to it and making clear America’s position on the most urgent issues of the day.

Now the administration is back in the United Nations with both feet and is trying to rally international support in a way that, quite frankly, I hoped and wished we had done a year ago, or longer.

The reason I mention this is not to highlight when the administration should or should not have done it. I mention returning to the United Nations because it coincides with Jack Danforth being at the helm there. I think that his being there is good for this country. The administration, in its successful and unanimous vote on Security Council Resolution 1546 on June 11, moved in a direction in which it had been hesitant to move, in my view, before. That is good news because we have squandered a number of meaningful opportunities to share the burden in Iraq. I hope we do not miss any more. I know Senator Danforth’s leadership can make a real difference on that front.

Last weekend, Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM of South Carolina, Senator DASCHLE, the Democratic leader from South Dakota, and I traveled to Iraq, Kuwait, and Jordan. The trip confirmed to me that turning over sovereignty on June 30 in Iraq is a starting point. It is not a turning point in the transition to self-government. I remain absolutely convinced that we can still get this right in Iraq and that we have to try because of the profound stakes we have in a successful transition. There is so much to lose if it fails.

We have to start leveling with the American people about what is and what is not happening on June 30. We are handing over sovereignty, but we are not handing over capacity. That is not a criticism. It is not as if we should be in a position to be able to hand over capacity. I think we could have been in a position to hand over much more, but it is not a criticism.

By “capacity,” I mean the ability of the Iraqis to provide security for themselves, to defend their borders, to defeat insurgency, to deliver services, to run a government, and to begin to set a foundation for economic success. What is so frustrating is that because of a series of very wrong judgments, we lost at least a year in effectively building that capacity. As a result, we have made an inherently difficult mission even harder.

If there is anyplace where humility is in order, it is in suggesting how we should proceed in Iraq. I remember when the distinguished chairman, Senator HAGEL, and I visited Iraq last August and we sat with Ambassador Bremer. My friend may remember my looking at Ambassador Bremer in the only room in that whole facility that had air-conditioning and saying: Mr. Ambassador, I want to make it clear to

you I think if the Lord Almighty came down and sat in the middle of this conference table and gave you the precise answer to the next 20 critical decisions you have to make, we still only have a 65-percent chance of getting this right.

Nobody has ever done this before. The Ottomans could not get it done. The Persians could not get it done. The Brits could not get it done. And they are not even dealing with what the country is today. Iraq is a polyglot made up of essentially what was left over in the region of three groups of noble people.

The fact is, this is a hard job by any standard. The central question is what we can do between June 30 when the sovereignty is handed over, and December of 2005 when a constitutionally elected Iraqi government is supposed to be seated. What can we do in that interim to help build that government that will be seated in December 2005? What can we do to help build the capacity for it to stand on its own? I think this should not be the sole responsibility of the United States.

The international community, through a unanimous vote on Security Council Resolution 1546, made clear that Iraq is the world’s problem. All of the Security Council voted in favor of that. They voted for elements of the whole. One of the elements, for example, just to note parenthetically, says that there will be provided a brigade, 4,000 troops, to protect the U.N. when they go back in. What was not stated is who will provide the troops.

There are many other elements that the unanimous resolution laid out in the Security Council. The Permanent Five, and other members of the Security Council signed on. They did not just sign on saying the United States can stay. They signed on saying that Iraq is the world’s responsibility.

The reason I go into this is to describe that it is going to take a man of Jack Danforth’s stature—while we are working it from State, while Negroponte is working it from Baghdad, while the President is working from the White House—to work out the problem of how we get the world’s major powers, Iraq’s neighbors, and leading international institutions such as NATO, to pick up empowering the Iraqis to govern.

In a nutshell, I believe we are going to have to, and Senator Danforth is going to have to play a part in getting other nations to help us train and equip Iraqi security services—including the police and the army—commit to defeat the insurgency, and provide security for Iraqi elections, which is going to require a surge of forces, not a reduction of forces. They should not all be U.S. military forces. The rest of the world has to get in on the deal, preferably with NATO and other foreign troops.

We need civil affairs experts from our allies, and more special forces and intelligence assets from America. We

have to provide, as called for in UN Security Council Resolution 1546, a special brigade, ideally from NATO, to protect the U.N. mission in Iraq, whose presence is critical for successful elections.

I know the Presiding Officer knows this but maybe not all of our colleagues have not focused on this: Thousands of polling places are going to have to open up. There are going to be U.N. people going into villages and going into towns throughout Iraq, over the next 6 months, to set up for the first election. That is going to be dangerous business. You have Zarqawi and others announcing that they are going to try to kill not only the interim government, but anybody who participates in making this work. So we need to assist the U.N. in doing its job—which is essential for our ultimate exit strategy—which is to support a secure Iraqi government—secure within its borders, not a threat to its neighbors, and not harboring weapons of mass destruction or terrorists.

How do we get from here to there? Jack, Senator Danforth, is going to have his hands full. We have to deploy an army of technical experts, primarily from other countries, to help Iraq run its government, and deliver essential services like electricity, water, and sanitation. By the way, I am not just talking about the major projects. The Russians pulled back from what seemed to them a pretty good contract, a contract to go out there and build electrical power capacity. Their folks were getting shot and killed, so they pulled back.

But there are thousands of little projects that are going to determine whether we succeed or fail in Iraq. One of the most impressive commanders I have met, and I spent a couple of hours with him in a briefing—is the Commander of the First Cavalry, an incredibly proud unit.

He said to all of us: Senators, look, I leave my tanks back in America. My tank drivers are now infantrymen. My infantrymen I had associated with this are now engineers.

On his big screen during this briefing he showed us Humvees. He has Sadr City as his responsibility. He showed Humvees going through sewage literally up to their hubcaps.

There is a company out in California that has done a remarkable job. It has created overlays for a number of things, such as utilities, that you would think were disparate and had nothing to do with one another. The overlays show where the greatest physical needs are, in terms of pollution and water problems, for example. Then the company overlaid, on top of that grid, a diagram of where the most fighters are coming from, and where the most terror is coming from.

This commander of the First Cavalry said: Take a look. In the places where we have gone in and done relatively small projects, such as getting potable water to homes, I don't have people

coming out of and killing my guys and women. He said, Do you know what I need? I need a better mix of troops—not better troops but a better mix of troops and capability. He said there is about \$450 million worth of projects that he has agreed and laid on, in Sadr City.

This is a commander who can shoot straight and kill. This is a serious guy. He said: You help me clean up the sewer, I will clean up Sadr City and I will get us peace in that area.

We have a lot of needs. The U.N. resolution, in my view, signs on the international community. Now it is time for them to sign up to take on some of these responsibilities.

The other thing we have to do, in which Senator Danforth is going to have to play a major part, is insist that other countries follow through on their financial pledges for more assistance, and demand that they provide significant debt relief. As a matter of fact, as my colleague brought up in a very important meeting this morning, we have to get money in there quickly. We can't wait to begin these major projects. We voted for about \$18 billion for Iraq to rebuild it. We have spent a pittance of that. It has not been spent. None of it has happened. Less than a half billion dollars, less than \$500 million of the \$18 billion we appropriated, has been spent on projects. That is tragic. That is not particularly good management, in my view.

Furthermore, Senator Danforth will have to bring other Security Council members together to develop a viable U.N. strategy for dealing with this great tragedy that is occurring in western Sudan. If our U.N. Ambassador doesn't take the lead in the Security Council then, in my view, little is going to happen.

Senator Danforth was called to get involved, and he did a brilliant job in negotiating the north/south crisis in the Sudan. Over the past several years he has worked very hard as a special envoy to support the peace process between the Government of Khartoum and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement.

With the signing of the last three protocols on May 26, that peace process is on the verge of a success and it is truly a significant achievement for the President and for Senator Danforth. But the impact of that agreement has almost completely been undermined by the horrific attacks on the civilians in Darfur by the Government of Sudan and its allied militias. These attacks have precipitated what the U.N. and U.S. officials call the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today.

We have already witnessed ethnic cleansing on a massive scale. Already as many as 30,000 people have been killed. Mr. Natsios, the administrator of the Agency for International Development, stated 3 weeks ago: "Under optimal conditions, we could see as many as 320,000 people die" in Darfur by the end of the year as a result of this violence, disease, and famine.

The U.N. factfinding team:

... identified ... massive human rights violations in Darfur, perpetrated by the Government of Sudan and its proxy militia, which may constitute war crimes and/or crimes against humanity.

I believe it is genocide.

The violations reported by the U.N. include the targeting of civilians during military strikes, the widespread rape of women and girls, destruction of homes, food stores, livestock, crops ... the razing of villages, forced displacements, and disappearances.

The administration has responded with humanitarian aid and raised the issue of Darfur repeatedly in Khartoum, and the President told us this morning at breakfast that he raised it at the G-8 meeting as well. The U.N. sent teams out to investigate. These are all important steps, but they are not enough. The international community must condemn Khartoum's actions unequivocally. It must insist that Khartoum stop attacks on civilians by government troops and militia, and provide unfettered access to Darfur for humanitarian workers.

I will soon introduce legislation that our U.N. Representative, I hope, will push for in a U.N. Security Council resolution which reimposes sanctions on Khartoum if the attacks in Darfur do not stop. This action may not resolve the situation, but it will help. Senator Danforth knows more about this crisis than I do, and do most of us in this place. I hope he will pursue such a resolution as one of his first actions as Ambassador to the United Nations.

Congress has to do its part. The United States should bring real money to the table to respond to the crisis, rather than empty promises that the money is on the way. I am working on an amendment to the Defense Department appropriations bill that would provide money for Darfur which Mr. Natsios pledged earlier this month the United States will provide. But bilateral action by the United States is not enough. We need our international partners to assist in pursuing Khartoum to stop the terror campaign in Darfur.

There are many other pressing issues facing the United Nations in New York. We have a lot of diplomatic work to do to repair relations. We have a new team at the top in Jack Danforth and, assuming she is also confirmed, his deputy, Anne Patterson. But I think the President has chosen very well.

By himself, Jack Danforth cannot repair relations between the United States and other nations at the U.N. But he said in the confirmation hearing that the reason he finally took the job that he initially didn't want to take is that he saw that as his mission, the single most important thing he could do. A recognition as to how important that belief is, is in and of itself an important message to be sent around the world.

Jack Danforth is the right person at the right moment to help repair the

breach, if the administration is committed to do so. And I am confident with Jack's leadership they will be able to do so.

In closing, I would like to extend my gratitude to Jack Danforth for agreeing to take on this difficult assignment. I thank his wife Sally for supporting him. I know I speak for all of my colleagues on this side of the aisle and, I suspect, although I wouldn't presume, the entire Senate. I speak for all of us when I say, Thank you, Godspeed, count on us. I know you can count on the chairman of this committee, Senator LUGAR, and me to do all we can to help you make your mission at the United Nations workable and doable.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, I would like to yield time to the distinguished Senator from Missouri, Senator TALENT. I yield as much time as he might require.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. TALENT. Madam President, I thank my friend from Indiana. I certainly want to associate myself with the remarks made on this floor on behalf of Senator Danforth. I know they have been uniformly, without exception, complimentary to him—not in a typical way we as matter of gesture may compliment public figures, but these were remarks by people who knew and who have known and who have worked with Jack Danforth for years and years and know him to be a tremendous public servant of deep integrity, thoughtfulness, and courage.

I am proud to say that he hails from the great State of Missouri. President Bush has simply selected a great man for this post. When he called me and told me about it, I told him I was thrilled. I could not think of a more qualified person to represent the United States at the United Nations.

Like most of us who have been around politics and government, I have known Senator Danforth and his wife Sally for many years. He served his country and the people of Missouri with dignity and distinction. It is appropriate to take a moment to place on the RECORD again his background and his credentials.

He served two terms as the attorney general of Missouri; three terms in the U.S. Senate; handled, as Senator BIDEN said, the difficult task of trying to bring peace to the Sudan, the difficult and delicate task of investigating the tragedy that occurred at Waco and emerged from that job, which could very easily have led to censure and disapproval from this town because it was a very controversial type investigation, with plaudits from everyone who recognized the thoroughness, the effectiveness, and the fairness of that investigation.

He knows the importance of bipartisanship. We have seen that from the comments on this floor today. Most recently the Nation appreciated his eloquence and his thoughtfulness as he

said goodbye to President Reagan during his memorial service.

He is, in short, a considerate man with character, diligence, and whose abilities qualify him to represent our Nation. The Senate will support him unanimously and without opposition.

As Senator BIDEN said, he is going to have a very difficult job. The United Nations is not an easy place. We are engaged in a war on terrorism. I want to say that, in my judgment, the United Nations has never really come to grips with the danger we are fighting. That will certainly be one of Senator Danforth's tasks.

One of the reasons this transnational movement of thugs we are now confronting grew to be as powerful as it became is because of the neglect of the international community and the United Nations. Policies of appeasement do not work with this group of people. I am not certain the United Nations realizes that.

I harken back to the end 2002 and the speech Prime Minister Blair gave to the Parliament, which I had an opportunity to watch, about negotiations within the United Nations about trying to deal with the threat against representative freedom by Saddam Hussein. Prime Minister Blair made the point then that after years and years and years of negotiations of containment, of watching him violate the obligations he had made after we defeated him in 1991, after a long record of aggression toward his neighbors, the use of weapons of mass destruction, deception, and the United States and Great Britain asked for one more resolution demanding that he show he had disarmed, with a threat of force if he failed to comply. That was blocked in the United Nations to which Jack Danforth is going to be an Ambassador.

The United Nations is, in my judgment, important in reconstructing Iraq. But it is important that the United Nations understand the threat we are confronting.

After Saddam was removed and the United Nations came to assist with humanitarian reconstruction, their headquarters was attacked by the terrorists. It was a terrible tragedy. While on one level you can understand it, on another level it was unfortunate that they lowered the flag and left. But that is what the United Nations did. The terrorists took that as a sign of weakness.

Senator Danforth is going to represent us in an organization which is highly bureaucratic, which is troubled by its own Food-for-Oil scandal, and whose resolve in the face of terrorism has been questionable in the past. I know he will do a great job of representing American interests. I believe he can help us draw close again to our traditional allies. He is the kind of person who knows how to be gracious and courageous at the same time.

I wish him well. He certainly has my support. I know the Senate will support him unanimously as well.

I yield the floor.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, it is with a deep sense of honor and privilege that I speak today in support of the nomination of one of our former colleagues, John C. Danforth, to serve as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.

While I served in the Congress for many years with Jack Danforth, our friendship was forged long before we arrived in Washington. Dating back to the late 1960s, he and I served our respective States as attorneys general: no small task given the turbulent times in which we were living. Jack and I, along with a few of our other attorneys general whose names are familiar—Slade Gorton and Warren Rudman—banded together to find common solutions to problems that our States were facing. Whether it was the threat of rampant development or the upsurge in illegal drug use, these problems had the potential to overwhelm our individual States. However, by working together through the National Association of Attorneys General, we made it through those tough times and I believe our States were better served for those relationships we forged.

Little did we know back then that years later, we would all be representing our States in this great Chamber, which Senator Danforth did with distinction from 1976 to 1995. I remember working with Jack Danforth on the Civil Rights Act of 1991, where his leadership was vital to passing that very important legislation. Through the course of a summer of seemingly endless meetings, discussions and negotiations with leaders of the contending factions, Jack Danforth was able to bring together support for a bill that guaranteed equal opportunity in the work place for all Americans. I stood with Senator Danforth through the entire process in 1991, and to this day remain awed by his ability to seek compromise, work in a bipartisan fashion and find common ground.

I was sad when Jack left the Senate, but his departure did not bring an end to his hard work. In a move that I believe speaks volumes about his character, he was selected by Attorney General Janet Reno to head the investigation of the FBI's role in the Waco, TX, tragedy. And in what was undoubtedly one of his toughest assignments, Jack was named Envoy for Peace in Sudan by President George Bush in September 2001.

All of his life experience leaves Senator Danforth amply qualified to represent our country in the United Nations, whose role in the world is so critical right now.

But perhaps there is one more item on his resume that should be mentioned. As we all witnessed at the recent funeral of President Ronald Reagan, Jack is also an Episcopal minister.

As I sat in the National Cathedral and listened to the Reverend Danforth deliver the homily on that day, I remembered what great admiration I had

for his work in the Senate, and realized how I missed his company.

He gave us all comfort that day, and the words he spoke about the late President could be said for Jack Danforth as well. I quote: "He was not consumed by himself."

I believe Jack Danforth has demonstrated that he is a man of great diplomatic skill who has always put the needs of his nation first. He is well suited to be our ambassador to the United Nations.

Thank you.

Mr. WARNER. I rise today in support of the nomination of former Senator James Danforth to be U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. I can think of no person better qualified to fill this critical position during the war on terrorism.

Senator Danforth is a true statesman, and is one of my closest friends over my 26 years of service in this Chamber. During this time in the Senate, our friend was a valued colleague and an even more valuable servant of the people of Missouri. He was first elected in 1976, 2 years before I came to the Senate, and served 18 years in this body. The fact that he was elected to three consecutive 6-year terms from the "Show Me" State of Missouri illustrates his remarkable wisdom and his ability to listen to his constituents in deciding important issues of the day.

After leaving the Senate, our colleague remained in service to his country, chairing a committee that reviewed the Federal response to the Branch Davidian activity in Waco, TX. More recently, Senator Danforth served as special envoy to the Sudan—an area of the world experiencing a particularly difficult and tragic humanitarian situation. In this capacity, he continued to demonstrate the compassion and goodwill that we became so familiar with in this body.

Senator Danforth left the Senate to answer a calling to the Episcopal priesthood. Even while he served among us in the Senate, our colleague volunteered on occasion as a pastor at the National Cathedral, where my own uncle served as rector in St. Albans Parish nearly three-quarters of a century ago. I was baptized and confirmed there on the Cathedral close, and was married at a chapel of that Cathedral just this past year. Senator Danforth and I not only were close friends; we shared a special bond of affection for that great Cathedral, which played such an important role in both of our lives.

And most recently, our good friend did such a magnificent job officiating in that same Cathedral at the funeral of President Ronald Reagan. Hearing our colleague's voice at that historic and difficult occasion gave comfort to each of us who were humbled to attend that ceremony. He did us proud: and we expected no less.

Now our dear colleague opens the next chapter of his exemplary career in public service. In these most difficult

of times, when our relations with our allies are so critical to our fight against a new enemy, I am confident that our good friend will carry himself with the same distinction—the same wisdom and thoughtfulness—that he demonstrated, over the years, next to us, in this very Chamber. Mr. President, each of us, as Americans, is fortunate that our colleague will once again be by our side in this critical public role.

I wish our dear friend all the best in his important new post.

Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, I am advised there are no other Senators here wishing to speak on the nominations. I am authorized to yield back time on both sides of the aisle.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of John C. Danforth to be Representative of the United States of America to the General Assembly, to be Representative with the rank and status of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and Representative to the Security Council of the United Nations, en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed, en bloc.

Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. LUGAR. I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENSIGN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak for 5 minutes as in morning business.

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

NOMINATION OF PETER W. HALL

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, in a few minutes, we will be considering the nomination of my good friend, Peter W. Hall, for a seat on the U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

Peter will come to the Second Circuit with an extensive and wide knowledge of the law. In addition, this nomination comes with the strong support of a large bipartisan group of Vermonters.

Jim Douglas, the Governor of Vermont, offered Peter's name to the President as the nominee for this seat, and both Senator LEAHY and I support his nomination.

My constituents also believe Peter will be an outstanding judge on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

Vermont has been proud to provide to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals a line of excellent judges to serve on that bench. That is a prestigious bench. I have the utmost faith that Peter will continue this line of excellence during his service.

I am a bit melancholy, though, as Peter will be filling the seat opened by the passing of my close friend, the late Fred Parker. Judge Parker left some big shoes to fill, both literally and figuratively, but Peter is the ideal candidate to accomplish this task.

Peter will bring a proper judicial temperament, strong values, and an exceptional judgment to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. I believe these all come naturally to Peter through his upbringing in Vermont. I know Peter will serve in the Vermont tradition of prudence and fairness.

I recommend that my colleagues support his nomination.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NOMINATION OF JACK DANFORTH AND THE CRISIS IN SUDAN

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I know we will be moving to other business in a few minutes. We have completed voting on Senator Danforth's nomination, but I wanted to come to the floor and speak to that nomination.

Senator Danforth has had a long and distinguished career in the Senate, and he has served this Nation capably, ably, and nobly since the time of that service. In particular, as has been mentioned over the course of the morning, he has served as President Bush's envoy to Sudan and has worked tirelessly to bring peace to that war-torn nation.

I focus on the Sudan because it is a country on a continent that means a lot to me personally. I was in the Sudan in September. I was there the year before that and the year before that and the year before that. I have been to Sudan many times and spent most of my time in the south of Sudan, a war-torn nation with 2 million people who have died and 5 million people displaced by an ongoing, still long-term civil war. I say "ongoing still," and I say that with the qualification that because of Senator Danforth's commitment, his noble service, we are much