

by doing it all: evening shift, day shift, staff assistant, supervisor, office manager, and senior service officer.

Within the confines of the Senate family, we all know how important is the coordination of office moves, the maintenance of our furniture inventory, and all the other operations of the Superintendent's Office. Russell had a hand in it all, and also served as liaison between the Superintendent and our Senate offices.

Since 1987, Russell has been Director of the Service Department, a division that is little known to the outside world but so essential to all of us in the Senate. His leadership there brought technological changes to meet the Senate's increasing demands for charts, graphs, exhibits, and the enormous amount of daily work that keeps our offices in contact with constituents and the media. At the same time, he updated personnel practices to boost both productivity and morale, and to open advancement opportunities through an evaluation process and cross training for staff.

The Senate, and the constituents whom we are here to serve, owe him a debt of gratitude. And I know my colleagues join me in wishing him a wonderful retirement.

KOSOVO

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, at this moment, U.S. forces under NATO command are conducting air strikes against Serbia. And they have my full support and endorsement as they go into battle. We all hope that bombing Serbia ends the cycle of violence between the Serbs and ethnic Albanians in that region.

Yesterday, I voted against authorizing the use of force because the President refused to explain to Congress and the American people how his goals would be achieved by bombing, and what our plan would be after the bombing stops—if Milosevic refuses to yield. I still do not see how bombing Serbia will bring about peace or end the atrocities being committed. I do not see how bombing Serbia will lead to the Administration's goals of greater political autonomy to Kosovo, the withdrawal of most Serbian military forces, protection of minorities, and a more equitable ethnic representation among local police. That being said, I fully support our troops and I'm confident they will carry out their mission successfully.

We should all support our troops and hope that we have not started down a slippery slope where the President insists that in order to protect our credibility or NATO's credibility we have to send in U.S. ground troops. The U.S. officially recognizes that Kosovo is part of Serbia, which along with Montenegro, forms the sovereign state of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. And

Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic has made it clear that Serbia does not want foreign troops on its soil. President Clinton, however, is bombing Serbia in order to force Serbia to agree to a peace accord which U.S. troops would be put on the ground to enforce—as an occupation force, not a peacekeeping force.

There is an ongoing civil war between the Serbs and the ethnic Albanians and the combatants have not exhausted their will to fight. So when the President talks about sending 4,000 American military men and women to Kosovo, he is talking about making peace not keeping peace. The Kosovo Liberation Army is fighting for independence; the Serbs are fighting for complete control by Belgrade. While the Kosovars have accepted the U.S.-supported plan, neither side enthusiastically embraces the U.S.-supported plan of limited autonomy. This is a recipe for disaster.

The President's decision to use NATO to attack Serbia fundamentally changes the nature of NATO. NATO has never attacked a country that has not threatened its neighbors or a member of the alliance. I do not think we should fundamentally change the nature of one of the most successful military alliances in history without a debate.

Mr. President, I support our troops. And the best way that I can support them at this time is to declare that I will do everything in my power to make sure that U.S. troops are not put on the ground in Kosovo.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN DOROTHY C. STRATTON

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President I rise today to recognize the outstanding accomplishments and distinguished service of Captain Dorothy C. Stratton, U.S. Coast Guard Reserve (Ret), on this her 100th birthday. She has served her country with honor as an educator, naval officer and public official.

Born in Brookfield, Missouri, Captain Stratton earned a Bachelor of Arts from Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas; a Master of Arts in Psychology from the University of Chicago; and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Student Personnel Administration from Columbia University. Captain Stratton joined Purdue University as the Dean of Women and Associate Professor of Psychology in 1933, becoming a full professor in 1940.

In June, 1942, with our nation embroiled in war, Professor Stratton left Purdue to join the Women Appointed Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES). She was assigned as the Assistant to the Commanding Officer of the U.S. Naval Training Station in Madison, Wisconsin. Due to the military's pressing need for personnel, Congress authorized the Women's Reserve

of the U.S. Coast Guard. The Act creating the Women's Reserve was signed into law by President Roosevelt on November 23, 1942, and within hours, Stratton became the first director of the new organization. She was the first female officer accepted for service in the history of the U.S. Coast Guard. She rose from Lieutenant Commander to the rank of Commander on January 1, 1944 and to the rank of Captain one month later.

One of Captain Stratton's first acts as Director of the U.S. Coast Guard Women's Reserve was to coin the famous name that would distinguish them from the Navy WAVES and the Army WACS. In a memo to the Commandant ADM Russell R. Waesche, Stratton explained: "The motto of the Coast Guard is 'Semper Paratus—Always Ready.' The initials of this motto are of course, SPAR. Why not call the members of the Women's Reserve SPARS? . . . As I understand it, a spar is often a supporting beam and that is what we hope each member of the Women's Reserve will be." Admiral Waesche agreed, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Captain Stratton led over 10,000 volunteers who responded to their nation's call for help between 1942 and 1946. She completed her service as Director of the SPARS in January, 1946 and was awarded the Legion of Merit. She then served as Director of Personnel for the International Monetary Fund from 1946 to 1950, and as the National Executive Director of the Girl Scouts of America from 1950 to 1960.

Mr. President, I wish to congratulate Captain Dorothy Stratton and to thank her for all she has done for this great country of ours. She is a shining example to us all, and it is truly a pleasure to wish her a happy birthday today.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:00 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate: