LEWIS R. MORGAN FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. GRASSLEY. On behalf of Senator MORGAN, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1121 and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1121) to designate the Federal Building and United States courthouse located at 18 Greenville Street in Newman, Georgia, as the “Lewis R. Morgan Federal Building and United States Courthouse”:

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read the third time and passed.

The bill (H.R. 1121) was considered read the third time and passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. GRASSLEY. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider en bloc the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: Nos. 16, 72, 73, 74, 76, and 77 through 91, and all nominations on the Secretary’s desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill appear in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 1121) was considered read the third time and passed.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

May 26, 1999

In the Senate:

To the Committee of the Judiciary:

The following named officer for appointment in the Department of Education:

Lorraine Fratte Lewis, of the District of Columbia, to be Inspector General, Department of Education.

In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment in the Department of Defense:

Ikrum U. Khan, of Nevada, to be a Member of the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences for a term expiring May 1, 1999.

In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 5046:

To be brigadier general

Capt. Craig R. Quigley, 1769

In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)


In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Paul V. Hester, 2071

In the Senate:

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (1h) John B. Cotton, 2052

Rear Adm. (1h) Vernon P. Harrison, 2188

Rear Adm. (1h) Robert C. Marlay, 9661

Rear Adm. (1h) Steven R. Morgan, 1542

Rear Adm. (1h) Clifford J. Sturek, 3137

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Naval Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (1h) John F. Bunzell, 8026

Rear Adm. (1h) John P. Conolly, 6461

Rear Adm. (1h) Joseph C. Hare, 2723

Rear Adm. (1h) Daniel L. Kloeppe, 8985

The following named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Thomas J. Nicholson, 4342

Col. Douglas V. Odeh, Jr., 2021

Col. Cornell A. Wilson, Jr., 9123

In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Roger A. Brady, 6561

In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment as the Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army, and appointment to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 3034:

To be general

Lt. Gen. John M. Keane, 9866

In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Andrew P. Ayres, Jr., 5986

In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Raymond P. Ayres, Jr., 5986

In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Earl H. Hatlon, 8306

In the Senate:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be general

Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti, 7426

In the Senate:

Air Force nomination of Donna R. Shay, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 1999.

Army nominations beginning Joseph B. Hines, and ending “Peter J. Molik, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 1999.

Army nomination of Timothy P. Eidinger, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 1999.

Army nomination of Chris A. Phillips, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 1999.

Army nominations beginning Robert B. Heathcock, and ending James B. Mills, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 1999.

Army nominations beginning Paul B. Little, Jr., and ending John M. Shepherd, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 1999.

Army nominations beginning Bryan D. Baugh, and ending Jack A. Woodford, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 1999.
Mr. M CCONNELL. Mr. President, I say these things because Dr. Khan was slated to be the next U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia. Let me say at the outset: I strongly oppose this nomination.

First, it is apparent that Mr. Wiedemann has done little to further the cause of democracy in Burma where he has been Chargé in Rangoon for the past several years. When we met in my office a few months ago, I asked him to cite specific instance where he supported Burmese democracy activists. Mr. Wiedemann produced a single letter from democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi. However, he could not cite a single action or activity that he undertook on the ground to help strengthen justice and freedom in Burma. Not one.

In addition, I asked the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to request copies of all statements or speeches Mr. Wiedemann gave while serving in Burma which support the U.S. policy to restore the legitimate government of Aung San Suu Kyi to office. During his entire tenure, he could not provide a single example of remarks made at a Burmese forum supporting U.S. policy or democracy.

Prediscovery Burmese activists wrote to me to share their views of Mr. Wiedemann's tenure in Rangoon:

The arrival of Mr. Wiedemann... has not changed much in respect to our democracy movement.

[Wiedemann] remained inactive and ignorant to our vital problems, human rights, democracy and refugee, and made no efforts at seeking cooperation with our NGOs who had extensive experience in these regards...

[There was] no coordination or effort on the part of the embassy, to help the democracy activists... Apart from regular meetings with Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi, we knew of no efforts by Mr. Wiedemann.

These are not my words; they are those of courageous Burmese men and women who stand for principles and justice. Yet, less than one month after the passing of Aung San Suu Kyi's husband, I understand that Mr. Wiedemann again requested a letter from her in support of his nomination. He seems more interested in personal and career promotion than advancing the cause of freedom in Burma.

Second, Mr. Wiedemann is simply the wrong American representative to send to Cambodia at this difficult time. My colleagues will know that March, I visited that war-ravaged country and was not encouraged by what I saw and heard. From Khmer Rouge trials to narcotics trafficking by the Cambodian military to rampant corruption and pervasive lawlessness, the next U.S. Ambassador must be a vocal advocate of human rights and the rule of law. When Mr. Wiedemann's nomination was being considered last year, Prince Norodom Ranariddh—then the First Prime Minister who had risen to power in 1991 and was ousted in a bloody coup d'etat in July 1997—and Sam Rainsy—an opposition leader who has survived two assassination attempts since March 1997—expressed their grave concerns:

We urge you not to replace Ambassador Kenneth Quinn after his term expires in Phnom Penh, and certainly not with Kent Wiedemann who we believe may be less than supportive of the cause of democracy in Cambodia.

Other Cambodian democracy activists have since joined the chorus of concern with his nomination. Again, in their own words:

[We are] deeply concerned that Mr. Wiedemann will court CPP [the Cambodian People's Party] strongman Hun Sen—at the expense of the democratic opposition—in an attempt to win him over. This particular nomination sends the wrong message at the wrong time to a government characterized by lawlessness and corruption. Mr. Wiedemann may lack the credentials to effectively promote American interests in Cambodia. He is not known as a vocal supporter of democracy in Southeast Asia.

Despite my strong beliefs and the legitimate fears of those who would be most affected by Mr. Wiedemann's appointment, it is clear that he will be confirmed by the Senate. Therefore, let me make clear my expectations of Mr. Wiedemann once he receives his credentials in Phnom Penh.

I expect him to meet regularly and publically with opposition political party leaders as well as democracy and human rights activists. I expect him to openly embrace and actively encourage the rule of law in Cambodia, even if this causes tensions with Prime Minister Hun Sen and the ruling CPP party. I expect him to support international and local nongovernmental organizations in Phnom Penh committed to legal and political reforms. And, I expect that he will not shirk his responsibilities as the American people's representative to Cambodia, a task that President Ronald Reagan described in February 1983:

The task that has fallen to us as Americans is to move the conscience of the world, to keep alive the hope and dream of freedom. For if we fail or falter, there'll be no place for the world's oppressed to flee to. This is not the role we sought. We preach no manifest destiny. But like the Americans who brought a new nation into the world 200 years ago, history has asked much of us in our time. (February 18, 1983)

Mr. President, it is my hope that Mr. Wiedemann will do his best to fulfill the awesome responsibilities as the American people's representative to Cambodia * * *. He is someone who has come here from another country on another continent, another culture, another language. His presence is to move the conscience of the world, to bring a new nation into the world 200 years ago, history has asked much of us in our time.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I want to say that we in the Senate tend to look at these nominations as mere numbers. Because we deal with so many nominations in this body, we tend to forget that these numbers stand for real people whose lives and dreams we are deciding upon.

I would like to talk in particular about one of these numbers, number 77. He is someone who, in a way, represents all of these numbers.

Number 77—otherwise known as Dr. Ikram Khan—is a resident of the State of Nevada, and one of the most important citizens we have in Nevada. He has served on the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners. He has been involved in many, many charitable activities over the course of the past two decades. He is a skilled physician, an outstanding surgeon. He comes from a very substantial family, a family that is highly regarded in the State of Nevada.

I say these things because Dr. Khan is an outstanding man. And he is all the more remarkable because he is a new citizen of the United States—he immigrated from Pakistan. His citizenship exemplifies what is good about our country. He is someone who has come here from another country on another continent, arrived in the United States, and hit