

proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 15 minutes each.

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

PROTECTING CHILDREN ON THE INTERNET

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I appreciate Senator MCCAIN for raising this important issue. I agree with him that is difficult to conceive that anyone would think that material that comes through the Internet which would not be allowed in the library in a book should be allowed to be in there electronically. It is frustrating to see the National Library Association, who I have observed over the years have a very radical view of absolutely no one telling a librarian what can be brought into a library. I don't think that is legitimate. Their salaries are paid by the taxpayers, and they receive money from the Federal Government. They don't have an absolute, unprotected right to select whatever they want in the library. It is not a healthy matter.

ELLSWORTH WOULD BE THE BEST HOME FOR THE NEW GLOBAL HAWK AIRCRAFT

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, the Air Force is currently evaluating five military bases to see which would be the best home for its new unmanned surveillance craft, known as Global Hawk. Accordingly, the Air Force is using the final 2 weeks of June to send a team out to each of the five candidates to solicit public opinion on potential environmental impacts. The next such meeting occurs Friday in Rapid City, SD and focuses on Ellsworth Air Force Base.

For the past year or so, I have been making the case for Ellsworth to senior officials in the Department of Defense and the Air Force. Perhaps not surprisingly, I firmly believe Ellsworth represents the best choice for the Air Force to host this important new mission. As we approach the date of the Air Force's meeting in South Dakota, I thought I would say a few words here in the Senate about why I feel as strongly as I do. Although I am confident none of my colleagues will be surprised by this position, they may find some of what I have to say about Ellsworth surprising.

Friday's meeting moves the Air Force one step closer to a deployment decision on the Global Hawk system. I and the scores of other supporters of Ellsworth welcome a careful, objective review. We are confident that at the end of such a process the Air Force will conclude that Ellsworth is the most appropriate home for the Air Force's next generation of surveillance aircraft.

We hold this view for three very important reasons. First, geography. Ells-

worth offers uncrowded airspace and largely open spaces. Such a setting is ideal for conducting the kinds of training missions necessary to ensure the Air Force maximizes the technological possibilities offered by Global Hawk.

The second reason Ellsworth has an edge over its competitors is base infrastructure. Many people who have never visited Ellsworth or who have not visited recently will be surprised to see the modern facilities at this base. Many people perceive Ellsworth as a sleepy, rundown former Strategic Air Command Base. Nothing could be further from the truth. As a result of years of effort, it now has the facilities to match the fine personnel it has always had.

The final advantage Ellsworth enjoys is community support that is as deep as it is widespread. From elected officials, to business owners, to hard-working South Dakotan families living in the surrounding area, all stand completely behind what Ellsworth does for South Dakota and our national security. The Air Force will be hard pressed to find a community more supportive of its mission.

For all of these reasons, I stand behind Ellsworth and welcome the Air Force to my state so they can see first hand what I have been talking about in meetings with defense officials and here today on the Senate floor.

FLOOD DISASTER

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to alert my colleagues that another series of national disasters have hit my home State of North Dakota. This newspaper headline from the largest paper in our State says it best with the headline on the front page, "Swamped." The newspaper goes on to say NDSU, the State university, suffered millions in damage. In fact, I talked to the president of the university hours ago. He believes the damage is in excess of \$20 million just at North Dakota State University. This newspaper indicated that the flood filled the Fargo dome where NDSU plays the football games. The dome was filled with over 8 feet of water.

This monsoon that hit Fargo, ND, on the night of June 19, absolutely flooded the entire town. It was an incredible series of circumstances. This is a picture that shows cars under water. We saw this all over the city of Fargo. Basements are flooded. Every kind of structure is flooded with 2 to 3 feet of water in the streets of the city of Fargo, the biggest city in my State.

We also saw massive flooding on the outskirts of town. This is the interstate. This is I-94 that connects Fargo to the rest of North Dakota. It is a major east-west highway in North Dakota. It was under water. Every part of town saw massive flooding. Homes and trailers are under water all across the city of Fargo.

North Dakota State University is one of the two major universities in our State. They suffered millions in damage, with very little flood insurance. The president of the university told me their insurance carrier tells them for this kind of event they only had \$10,000 of insurance coverage—with losses of over \$20 million. Even the president's house was wet. The newspaper says the president of the university was among many people dealing with the soggy conditions after fighting battles throughout the night, with 2 inches of sewage that entered the basement of the president's house through the failure of the sewer system.

This disaster was not confined to the city of Fargo, unfortunately. It spread throughout the area. Probably one of the great ironies is that until June 11 we were in a drought in much of eastern North Dakota. On June 12, 13, and 14, we had heavy rains in the northeastern part of the State.

I was there last week with FEMA officials assessing the damage. In that part of the State, they received 20 inches of rain in 2 days—absolutely Biblical. I have never seen anything like it—20 inches of rain in 2 days. The entire annual precipitation we receive in the State of North Dakota came in 2 days.

Over 150,000 acres of prime farmland flooded in that series of incidents. Of course, that was followed a week later, last Monday night, by this devastation hitting Fargo, ND, the largest city in the State. The mayor of Fargo said it perhaps best: "It's the worst rain flood we've ever had."

This is an event unparalleled in North Dakota history. There is something very odd going on with the weather pattern. I can only say in my State we have had eight Presidential disaster declarations in the last 7 years. We fully anticipate we will have number nine as a result of this series of incidents in northeastern North Dakota and then in southeastern North Dakota. Hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland were flooded. The major city of my State was very badly hurt by this massive flooding.

I have come before with requests for disaster assistance. I was very hopeful we weren't going to have a disaster this year. Until these devastating events, the worst thing happening was that we appeared to have a drought in part of the State. It is truly stunning to get 20 inches of rain in 2 days.

The damage is incalculable. In North Dakota State University, there wasn't a building on the campus that was not flooded. The president informed me today that the basement of the library was badly flooded where some of the archives were kept. They were in the basement because that is the safest place in a tornado. Fargo is a town that has previously been hit by tornadoes—not frequently, but on occasion.