

hopefully, completing our work on energy and water and taking up the Graham nomination. My hope is that we can complete both of those tomorrow. We will stay late and make some decision late in the day about how much time may be required. But there is no reason to believe that we cannot finish energy and water and the Graham nomination before the end of the day tomorrow.

So Senators should be prepared to work late tomorrow in order to accommodate those two very important priorities—again, not just to us but certainly to the administration. The administration has made it very clear that this Graham nomination is important, and they have a right to assert that. We will attempt to accommodate their desire to complete the work on that confirmation before the end of the day tomorrow.

#### THE LIFE AND EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF KATHARINE GRAHAM

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I join my colleagues in expressing my great admiration for Katharine Graham and my profound sadness on her passing.

I also convey my regrets to Mrs. Graham's family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with them on this very sad day.

America lost a legend this afternoon. Katharine Meyer Graham was a woman of great dignity, intelligence, and wit. She was a pioneer. She was a patriot who believed deeply in the strength of our democracy, and in the indispensability of a free press in preserving this democracy.

Much has been made of Mrs. Graham's gender—and rightly so. No woman has ever achieved what she achieved in journalism, and her accomplishments helped change people's perceptions about the role women could play in journalism, in business, and in the world. But Katharine Graham needs no modifiers.

She was not simply one of the best woman newspaper publishers in the country; she was one of the best newspaper publishers America has ever seen—period.

Katharine Graham was a 46-year-old widowed mother of four when she took over as president of the Washington Post in 1963.

At the time, the Post was one of three daily papers in Washington and not even the best or most widely read of the bunch.

A decade later, largely because of the courage and the extraordinary talent of Katharine Graham and editor Ben Bradlee, the Post was not only indisputably the best newspaper in Washington; it was one of the best newspapers in the world.

In June 1971, with Katharine Graham's backing, the Washington Post

joined the New York Times in fighting a court order banning publication of the so-called Pentagon Papers.

Thirty years later, the Supreme Court decision overturning that injunction remains one of the most important decisions in first amendment law.

One year later, in June 1972—again with Katharine Graham's blessing—the Post began its coverage of the Watergate break-in and cover-up. She never wavered in her support of her reporters and their quest for the truth.

Mrs. Graham was modest about her professional achievements. She once said of her paper's Watergate coverage:

The best we could do was to keep investigating . . . to look everywhere for hard evidence . . . to get the details right . . . and to report accurately what we found.

She made it sound almost like a routine story. It was, of course, anything but routine.

It led eventually to the resignation of a President of the United States, and it earned the Post the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service.

Over the next nearly three decades, there would be many other awards and accolades for Katharine Graham, including a Pulitzer of her own—the Pulitzer Prize for Biography for her 1998 autobiography, "Personal History."

We are so fortunate that in what would be the last years of her life, she took the time to sit down and write an incredible story that had largely gone untold—her story.

In recalling her sudden ascendancy as president of the Post, she remarked:

What I essentially did was to put one foot in front of the other, shut my eyes and step off the ledge. The surprise was that I landed on my feet.

For those who knew her, for those who loved her, and for those of us who were simply lucky enough to have met her and seen her work, Katharine Graham's success seems no surprise at all. She was a woman of remarkable insight and remarkable strength.

My deepest sympathies go out to her children, Donald, Lally, William, and Stephen, her many grandchildren, and her great-grandchildren.

Our Nation's Capital will not be the same without her and neither will American journalism.

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. DASCHLE. 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 LORI A. FORMAN TO BE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF AID FOR ASIA AND NEAR EAST

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I come to the floor, as I did earlier this spring,

to commend the efforts of a South Dakotan who is having a direct impact on America's international interests. Last Thursday evening, I was proud when the Senate confirmed Lori A. Forman, born and raised in Sioux Falls, SD, to be Assistant Administrator of USAID for Asia and the Near East. She is the first South Dakotan nominated and confirmed to serve in the Bush Administration.

The Assistant Administrator for Asia and the Near East, ANE, has a tremendous responsibility. Stretching from Morocco in the West to the Philippines in the East, the ANE region is large and diverse and covers a wide range of issues of critical importance to the U.S., including the challenges posed by terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The region is also home to vital economic interests. As a market for U.S. goods and services, it is second only to Europe. Countries in the region provide 50 percent of the oil consumed in the United States and control vital shipping lanes for the world's commerce. As the world witnessed with the Asian Financial Crisis in 1997, instability in this region has direct and significant ramifications for global economic interests.

Furthermore, the region poses a development challenge for the United States. According to the World Bank, the ANE region accounts for more than two-thirds of the world's extremely poor. And those poor are succumbing more and more to the threat of infectious disease, especially HIV/AIDS. In India alone, there are 1,500 additional cases of HIV daily.

In such an important region, USAID requires a talented and experienced Assistant Administrator. Our interests there are too vital and the costs of failure too high for us to accept anyone but the finest.

I can think of no better candidate than Lori Forman. She has written extensively on the development challenges in Asia. Her writings are based on years of experience—in both the governmental and non-governmental sectors—as a development practitioner throughout Asia. She knows the region and Washington, ensuring that assistance will get to the people for whom it is intended, not become tied up in bureaucratic wrangling here.

Lori has an additional asset which has served her well in her career—and will continue to serve her well. Though she has been engaged in Asia policy for much of the last 25 years, she is from the Great State of South Dakota. In South Dakota we pride ourselves on humility, self-reliance and hard work, traits that are valuable, even crucial, to anyone in the development field.

Americans from each and every state are having a positive impact on the lives of people the world over. I am particularly proud when individuals from