The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Presiding Officer, the Honorable JEAN CARNAHAN, a Senator from the State of Missouri.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, today the Senate will resume consideration of the Energy and Water Appropriations Act. Cloture was filed on this bill yesterday evening. Unless further agreement is reached, the Senate will vote on cloture on this matter Friday morning.

The majority leader requested that I express to the Senate the fact that we will be voting into the afternoon on Friday unless we are able to move more quickly than we have the last couple of days.

I remind everyone that in addition to being on the finite list, which has already been filed, all first-degree amendments on the energy and water bill must be filed before 1 p.m. today.

We still hope we can reach agreement and complete action on the energy and water bill this morning. We also hope to reach agreement on considering a number of Executive Calendar nominations and begin work on any available appropriations bill and also work on the Graham nomination, which is something the majority leader wants to move to as quickly as possible.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.J. RES. 36

Mr. REID. Madam President, it is my understanding that there is a bill at the desk due its second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 36) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the rule, the resolution will be placed on the calendar.

The Senator from Maryland is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO KATHARINE GRAHAM

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I rise to speak today to pay tribute to the life and legend of Katharine Graham. It is as if the Washington Monument has fallen. It is as if the lights have gone out at the Smithsonian Institution or the lights have gone out at the Lincoln Memorial. I truly cannot imagine Washington without Kay Graham. She was a Washington institution, a very real person with a remarkable mix of qualities. Much has been said about her grace, her grit, her steel, her great intelligence.

Kay Graham put those qualities into action. She lived an extraordinary life and left an indelible mark on our Nation.

I know the Presiding Officer liked Kay Graham because she took chances. Perhaps one of the greatest chances she took was when she actually took the helm of the Washington Post. Think about it. It was 1963. It was not a time when women did bold things, power things, and they certainly were not on the rung of leadership to be CEOs. She was a woman who had faced an enormous personal tragedy. But as she reflected on where she was, where her family was, and where this newspaper was, she decided to take the helm.

She was initially a reluctant leader, thrown into a leadership position because of the death of her husband. In embracing a leadership position, she set about hiring the very best people and giving them the independence to create one of the greatest newspapers in the world.

She built a Fortune 500 company. And guess what. She became the first woman to head a Fortune 500 company.

There were other firsts for Katharine Graham as well. She was the first director of the Associated Press, the first woman to lead the American Newspaper Publishers Association. I could go through a whole list.

Now we take for granted that women will lead, that women will be in positions of leadership in the private sector and in the public sector. We now enjoy the fact that there are 13 women in the Senate. We have women as university presidents, Governors, and CEOs from dot coms to leaders of the old economy.

Yet we cannot forget how hard it was to be the first because for the first and the only, it is also being the first and the lonely.