

really surprise anyone that Arafat remains what he has always been. As Charles Krauthammer recently noted in the *Weekly Standard*, “[Arafat] proved, even to much of the Israeli left, that the entire theory of preemptive concessions, magnanimous gestures, rolling appeasement was an exercise in futility.”

The key to peace is a Palestinian leadership that would appeal to the better nature of the Palestinian people, one that would reflect their aspirations for a prosperous and peaceful future—not one that exploits their misery through a policy of physically and vitriolically attacking Israel. In short, a democratic government. As my friend Douglas Feith expressed the point in an article in *Commentary*: “A stable peace [is] possible . . . only if the Palestinians first evolved responsible administrative institutions and leadership that enjoyed legitimacy in the eyes of its own people, refrained from murdering its political opponents, operated within and not above the law, and practiced moderation and compromise at home and abroad.” This would, of course, be a boon not only for the Israelis, but for the Palestinians—indeed especially for the Palestinians.

For over fifty years, the United States and Israel have been bound together in a relationship that has weathered many efforts to drive a wedge between us. With the coincident election of a new leader in each country, our two great nations have an opportunity to reassess the lessons recent history has to teach us. For my part, I am optimistic that the new American administration will place a great value on our relationship with the Israeli people; and I am optimistic that the Israelis will maintain the strength and morale that they will need to await a change in Palestinian leadership. At that point there will be much more the Israelis can do to secure their future.

The United States should not push Israel into a process or into an agreement with which the government and people of Israel are not completely comfortable, with their security ensured. It is their existence that is at stake, and we must take no actions that jeopardize their security.

My colleague from Wyoming would like to use the remainder of our time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

ENERGY

Mr. THOMAS. Madam President, I appreciate the time. I thank my friend from Arizona for his comments on energy. Certainly, I can't think of an issue that affects more people and is more likely to become a crisis again than energy. We had some touch of it and backed off of it a little. California is doing a little better than it was. Gas prices are tending to stabilize or even come down.

The real cause of the problem is still there. I am surprised, frankly, that the Senate leadership hasn't been willing to go forward and at least give us a date as to the time in which we can undertake this question of energy and energy supply. We have gone now 8, 10 years without a policy regarding energy, not having any real direction with regard to what we are going to do. We have become 60-percent dependent on OPEC and overseas oil. We haven't developed refineries, new transmission lines, or pipelines in order to move energy from where it is to where it is needed, and still our leadership here refuses to move forward.

I think we will again be facing the same kind of situation we just had if we don't move to find a long-term resolution, and we can.

We now have a policy from the administration, one that deals with domestic production. There is access to public lands, much of it standing in Alaska or in many places that could indeed have production without damage to the environment. We can do that.

We can talk about conservation. We can talk about renewables. We have to have a policy to cause us to do some of these things.

The transportation is vitally important. In Wyoming, we have great supplies of coal, for example. In order to mine and move that energy to where the market is, you have to have some transmission. There are a number of ways to do that, and we can if we decide to and commit ourselves to do it.

Research, clean coal: Our coal in Wyoming is clean, and it can be cleaner if we have research to do that.

Diversity: We can't expect to have only one source of supply for all the energy we use. We are heavy energy users, and most of us are not willing to make many changes to that.

I am grateful for the comments of my friend, and I hope we can get the leadership here to set the agenda to move toward doing something there.

USING SNOW MACHINES IN YELLOWSTONE PARK

Mr. THOMAS. Madam President, I know it is now summer, but I will now talk about using snow machines in the Yellowstone Park in the wintertime. It is a question that has become quite political, as a matter of fact. There have been letters sent to the Department of the Interior from the Senate on both sides.

For a number of years, in Grand Teton, in Yellowstone Park, and many of the other parks, the principal access people have had in the wintertime to enjoy their park was with snow machines. It has been done for a long time, really. Frankly, there hasn't been much management of that technique, unfortunately. The park officials have not had much to do with it.

They have not sought to organize how and where it is done, separate the snow machines from the cross-country skiers, which can be done so each can have their own opportunity. It has to manage numbers sometimes, for instance, if they become too large around Christmas vacation.

They can make changes, but they have not done that. They have an opportunity, and we have an opportunity to have much cleaner machines, which are less noisy and which are less polluting. The manufacturers have indicated they can and will do this. Of course, they need some assurance from EPA that having done it, they will be able to use these machines. But none of these things have happened. Instead, because of the difficulties that are, in fact, there and without management, an EIS study went on for several years.

Unfortunately, toward the end, instead of going on through with the regular system of input, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior went out and said this is what the answer is going to be. The answer was to do away with individual snow machines in the parks over a period of a couple of years. That isn't what is designed to happen when you have EIS studies and when you involve local communities and local people and then have somebody from Washington come and make the decision. But that is what did happen.

Furthermore, the regulation that was agreed to in the study was put before the public the last day of the last administration when there was no opportunity to do anything about it. So what has happened is that there has been a lawsuit filed. I have introduced a bill that would allow not to continue snow machines the way they have been but, rather, to do the management technique, manage the numbers and the sites, and also set specifications so that manufacturers can meet them and you can go forward.

What is the purpose of the park? It is to preserve the resources and to allow the owners to enjoy them. This is the way that you have access in the wintertime.

So this has become somewhat of a discussion, somewhat of a controversy. I am hopeful that they can come to an agreement—and this administration is working toward coming to an agreement—in which these changes could be made. Nobody is suggesting to continue to do it the way it has been done in the past. But there can be changes made that will indeed allow access and protect the environment and the animals and the rural environment at the same time. We can do those things.

One other word on national parks. The Grand Teton National Park was expanded in 1950. When that was done, there were a number of lands that were brought into the park, and among them were several school sections that belonged to the State of Wyoming.