

Texas could be exposed to dangerous levels of radioactivity.

The U.S. State Department lists Cuba as a state sponsor of terrorism. Cuba also regularly conducts political, social, and economic interactions with countries listed on the State Department's List of Terrorist Nations, including Libya, Iran, and Iraq, giving it access to these countries' illegal supplies of weapons and biotech products. These activities, all just 90 miles off our shores, must be considered as a threat to U.S. national security.

Mr. President, it is clear that Cuba has the capability to threaten U.S. national security. Castro's track record of provocations and attacks should be a warning that he will use whatever capabilities he has. We must take these threats seriously and ensure that we can adequately respond to any Cuban provocation. The Constitution requires us to provide for the common defense of the American people, and we must never shrink from that responsibility. The threats posed by Castro's Cuba are obvious. What must be made clear is an adequate plan to deter and defend against such threats. ●

TRIBUTE TO BOB BARKER

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has brought joy and laughter to countless Americans during his nearly fifty years in entertainment, Bob Barker. Next week, Mr. Barker, who is the host and executive producer of the legendary game show CBS' "The Price is Right," celebrates airing the 5,000th episode of his series. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his achievements.

In his 26th season, "The Price is Right" is the longest running game show in American history and continues to be America's highest rated daytime game show. Beyond the fact that most Americans have watched the show at some point in their lives, more than 42,000 people have been contestants on the program, while an approximate 1.3 million have participated in the studio audience. Both the show's spontaneity and Mr. Barker's effortless rapport with contestants have given "The Price is Right" its unique popularity. Bob has repeatedly said over the years, "The Price is Right" is not just a television show, it is an event. Today I commend Mr. Barker not only for reaching this impressive milestone with the show, but also for his long-standing ability to entertain the American people.

Mr. Barker was born in Darrington, Washington, and spent most of his youth on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota where his mother was a school teacher. His family eventually moved to Springfield, Missouri, where he attended high school and Drury college on a basketball scholarship. When World War II intervened, he became a Navy fighter pilot, but the war ended before he was assigned to a seagoing squadron.

Following his discharge, Mr. Barker returned to Drury College and took a job at a local radio station to help finance his studies. It was there that he discovered that what he did best was to host audience participation shows. After graduating summa cum laude with a degree in economics, he went to work for a radio station in Palm Beach, Florida. A year later he moved to Los Angeles, and within a week, he was the host of his own radio program, "The Bob Barker Show."

Bob Barker's career was forever transformed in 1956 when he debuted as the host of the television show, "Truth or Consequences." It was his 3,524 consecutive performances on "Truth or Consequences" over its eighteen-year run that won him the title of "Most Durable Performer" in the Guinness Book of World Records. During his forty-one years on network television, he has taped more shows than any other individual for a network series. Between "Truth and Consequences," "The Price is Right," and his 21 years as host of both the Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants, he has hosted more than 8,500 shows in the course of his career. According to CBS, he has made more appearances on television in general than anyone else in the entire history of the medium. Bob has won 12 Emmy Awards, ten of which were for his performances as a game show host and represent the largest number of Emmys given to a single television performer.

Bob is an outspoken and eloquent supporter of animal rights, and has consistently used his celebrity to help to control the animal population, thereby reducing the number of needless animal deaths. Each day he closes "The Price is Right" with a reminder to spay and neuter your pets. He has established the DJ&T Foundation to provide funding for free spay and neuter clinics across the nation. In recognition of his efforts, he received the International Society for Animal Rights' highest honor, the Henry Salt Award, in 1995.

Therefore, as Mr. Barker commemorates the 5,000th episode of "The Price is Right," I thank him for his special lighthearted touch. As he told the Los Angeles Times in 1996, "We don't solve the world's problems. But hopefully we help a lot of people to forget their problems for an hour * * * We're there to entertain, laugh, and have fun." On behalf of the people of the state of California, I congratulate you, Bob, and thank you for entertaining us and making us laugh.

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 105-40

Ms. COLLINS. As in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on April 2, 1998, by the President of the United States:

Treaty with Israel on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, Treaty Document No. 105-40.

I further ask unanimous consent that the treaty be considered as having been read for the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

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

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Treaty between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the State of Israel on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, signed at Tel Aviv on January 26, 1998, and a related exchange of notes signed the same date. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the Report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty.

The Treaty is one of a series of modern mutual legal assistance treaties being negotiated by the United States for the purpose of countering criminal activities more effectively. The Treaty should be an effective tool to assist in the prosecution of a wide variety of modern criminals, including those involved in terrorism, other violent crimes, drug trafficking, money laundering, and other white collar crime. The Treaty is self-executing.

The Treaty provides for a broad range of cooperation in criminal matters. Mutual assistance available under the Treaty includes: taking the testimony or statements of persons; providing documents, records, and articles of evidence; serving documents; locating or identifying persons or items; transferring persons in custody for testimony or for other assistance; executing requests for searches and seizures; assisting in proceedings related to seizure, immobilization and forfeiture of assets, restitution, and collection of fines; executing procedures involving experts; and providing any other form of assistance appropriate under the laws of the Requested State.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty and give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 2, 1998.

AUTHORIZING FUNDS FOR FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS, HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS, AND TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I understand that the Senate has received from the House H.R. 2400 regarding the highway legislation. Pursuant to the consent agreement of March 12, 1998, I now ask unanimous consent that the

Chair be authorized to appoint the following conferees, which I send to the desk.

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

Under the order of March 12, 1998, all after the enacting clause of H.R. 2400 is stricken, and the text of S. 1173, as amended, is inserted in lieu thereof. The bill is read a third time and passed, the Senate insists on its amendment, and requests a conference with the House.

The Presiding Officer (Mr. HUTCHINSON) appointed from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. BOND, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. REID, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. BOXER and Mr. WYDEN; from the Committee of Finance, Mr. ROTH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BREAUX, and Mr. CONRAD; from the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. DODD; from the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. STEVENS and Mr. HOLLINGS; from the Committee on the Budget, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. NICKLES, and Mrs. MURRAY conferees on the part of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. S. 1173 is indefinitely postponed.

AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENTS DURING ADJOURNMENT

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that not withstanding the adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: Nos. 526, 535, 536, 537, 555, 556, 557, 563, 564, and 565.

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

I ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to these nominations appear at this point in the RECORD, and that the President be immediately notified of

the Senate's action, and that the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Thomas J. Umberg, of California, to be Deputy Director of Supply Reduction, Office of National Drug Control Policy.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Richard M. McGahey, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Robert J. Shapiro, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

John Charles Horsley, of Washington, to be Associate Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

THE JUDICIARY

Kermit Lipez, of Maine, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

Robert T. Dawson, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas.

Johnnie B. Rawlinson, of Nevada, to be United States Judge for the District of Nevada.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

Elaine D. Kaplan, of the District of Columbia, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, for the term of five years.

THE JUDICIARY

Melvin R. Wright, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Ruth Y. Goldway, of California, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Rate Commission for a term expiring November 22, 2002.

NOMINATION OF JUDGE KERMIT V. LIPEZ TO THE FIRST CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

Ms. COLLINS. I rise in support of No. 555 on the Executive Calendar, the nomination of Kermit Lipez, of Maine, to the first circuit.

Mr. President, it is an honor and a pleasure to rise to speak in support of the nomination of Justice Kermit Lipez to serve on the First Circuit Court of Appeals.

Having spent the past 12 years as a member of the Maine judiciary, Justice Lipez is a highly respected jurist. With experience at both the trial and appellate court levels, it is fair to say that he has been tested for the position for which he has now been nominated and that he has passed that test with flying colors.

Justice Lipez is universally praised in Maine for his judicial temperament, his sense of fairness, and his intellectual capabilities. His demeanor is consistently that of a gentleman, treating witnesses, jurors, attorneys, and spectators with great respect, and ensuring that others follow his example. He makes the courtroom a far less intimidating place for the average person.

Justice Lipez's reputation for impartiality is reflected in the high regard in which he is held by all segments of the bar. Indeed, people who agree on little else agree on his sense of fairness. He was appointed to the Maine Superior Court by a Democratic Governor, he

was appointed to the Maine Supreme Court by a Republican Governor, and he was recently praised by an Independent Governor. If public trust in our court system hinges on the belief that the courtroom is a place where everyone can expect equal treatment, no one in Maine has done more to promote that perception than Justice Lipez.

The nominee is also a man who combines great intellectual acumen with considerable common sense. He has that rare ability to deal with the most cerebral of issues while keeping his feet planted firmly on the ground. Despite the talent he possesses and the respect he commands, he is a person of humility, an essential trait for someone empowered to sit in judgment of others.

Mr. President, Kermit Lipez's dedication to his profession is beyond question. As a judge's son, he came to the bench with considerable knowledge of the judicial function. Yet, shortly after his appointment to the State Superior Court, he took the unusual step of obtaining a master's degree in judicial process from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Justice Lipez understands not only the powers of a judge but also the limits on those powers. To use his own words, courts exist to resolve "particularized disputes. They do not decide the wisdom of laws. . . . [They] squander their resources and their authority when they try to manage problems or impose solutions beyond their competence and their proper role."

Mr. President, Justice Lipez has excelled in everything he has undertaken—whether as a legislative aide to former Senator Muskie, a private practitioner, a trial judge, or a Justice on Maine's Supreme Judicial Court—and I am confident that he will excel as a member of the First Circuit Court of Appeals.

Senator SNOWE has been a very strong advocate for Justice Kermit Lipez. It was, in fact, Senator SNOWE's husband who appointed Justice Lipez to the court in Maine. I am delighted to be here tonight to speak on behalf of this nomination.

IN SUPPORT OF JUSTICE KERMIT LIPEZ

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to express my strong support of Justice Kermit Lipez's nomination to become a judge on the First Circuit of the U.S. Court of Appeals.

Justice Lipez has many qualifications to recommend him and I want to take a few minutes to touch on them. But before I begin, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Senator HATCH, for all that he has done in getting the Committee to promptly consider Justice Lipez's nomination and bringing us to this vote today. Throughout this process, Senator HATCH has been consistently thoughtful and cooperative, and I want him to know how much I appreciate his invaluable contributions and assistance.

The Senate's action today will be the culmination of an exemplary career on