

or defensive. I am not, not for a moment. I am simply saying that is a fact, and I can tell you, since those bombs exploded in India and Pakistan, it is a very ominous sign, and I can tell you the threat to civilization has gone up exponentially.

When the President is going to visit a country which has signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which has signed the Conventional Weapons Treaty, Conventional Weapons Convention, and which has agreed to quit shipping any information of any nuclear value to Iran, those are things that would never have happened if the Hutchinson amendment was in place. I feel quite sure the Hutchinson amendment will be defeated. I hope so.

He is my colleague, and I regret taking a position opposite him on any issue, but on this one, I can tell you, in my opinion, common sense dictates that the President do exactly what he is doing. I wish him well. I yield the floor.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. COLINS). Under the previous order, the hour of 3 p.m. having arrived, the Senate will now proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination of Susan Oki Mollway to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii, which the clerk will report.

#### NOMINATION OF SUSAN OKI MOLLWAY, OF HAWAII, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII

The bill clerk read the nomination of Susan Oki Mollway to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there are 2 hours for debate on the nomination, equally divided.

The Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. INOUE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii is recognized.

Mr. INOUE. Madam President, before I proceed, I thank my dear friend from Utah, the distinguished chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Mr. HATCH, for reporting out the nomination of Susan Oki Mollway. I also thank my friend from Vermont, the ranking Democrat on the committee, Mr. LEAHY, for his encouragement throughout this process. And, if I may, I acknowledge and thank the majority leader of the Senate, the distinguished Senator from Mississippi, Mr. LOTT, for scheduling this matter this afternoon. I am certain the people of Hawaii are most grateful for this.

Madam President, I am pleased to recommend to my colleagues for their approval the President's nominee to the U.S. district court for the district of Hawaii, Ms. Susan Oki Mollway. Ms.

Mollway was nominated to fill a vacancy created more than 3 years ago by the untimely and unexpected death of the Honorable Harold F. Fong.

An empty judgeship is considered a judicial emergency after 18 months. This seat has been vacant for more than twice that time. In 1990, under Public Law 101-65, the Congress determined that Hawaii's Federal caseload called for increasing its Federal bench from three to four positions. However, the Honorable Helen Gillmor was not confirmed for that fourth seat until October 31, 1994.

Then Judge Fong passed away on April 20, 1995, returning Hawaii to three sitting district judges. Thus, Hawaii has had the benefit of the fourth judgeship for less than 6 months since its authorization in 1990.

For the year 1997, the weighted case filings for the three sitting district judges in Hawaii was 706 cases per judge. To give you a sense of what this means, the Federal Judicial Conference's standard indication of the need for additional judgeship is 430 weighted case filings per judge. Ours is 706. Needless to say, Hawaii has justifiably requested that a fifth judgeship be approved.

When Judge Fong passed away, Senator AKAKA and I undertook the job of interviewing and considering nearly 40 candidates for this judgeship. After personally meeting with these candidates and reviewing their individual backgrounds, Senator AKAKA and I were pleased to recommend Ms. Susan Oki Mollway to the President.

Ms. Mollway is ready for the position of U.S. district judge, and I believe she is absolutely worthy of your favorable consideration. The majority of the American Bar Association Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary has given her the highest rating of "well qualified" for this judicial position.

By way of professional background, Ms. Mollway graduated at the top of her class from the University of Hawaii with a degree in English literature. She received later her master's degree in the same field. Then Ms. Mollway went on to Harvard Law School where she graduated cum laude in 1981.

For the past 17 years, Ms. Mollway has had a very successful litigation practice with one of the largest and most respected law firms in the State of Hawaii. She has been a partner in that firm's litigation department since 1986. Her impressive litigation experience includes a wide array of areas from Federal labor law to contract disputes to lender liability and appearances before every level of the State and Federal courts, as well as a successful appearance before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1994.

Ms. Mollway has also taught appellate advocacy at the University of Hawaii's William S. Richardson School of Law and has participated as an arbitrator with Hawaii's court-annexed arbitration program. I have no hesitation

in giving my highest recommendation to Ms. Susan Oki Mollway.

Questions have been raised about Ms. Mollway's former membership on the board of directorship of the American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii. More particularly, she has been asked to give her personal views on such matters as same-sex marriage, mandatory minimum sentencing, the death penalty, and employee drug testing. Ms. Mollway has responded to these questions and I believe has given a complete account of her own activities with the ACLU. With respect to her personal views, in most instances, Ms. Mollway has stated that she has not formed any personal opinions.

More important, as one who may become a Federal trial judge, she clearly understands that her personal opinions are not relevant to the decisions she will make as a judge. Rather, Ms. Mollway has unambiguously and repeatedly recognized in her responses the authority of the Constitution, Federal statutes as passed by the Congress, and case precedent from higher courts.

Furthermore, Ms. Mollway has unwaveringly stated that there is nothing whatsoever that prevents her from abiding by and applying applicable law and precedent in cases that may come before her as a Federal district judge. I am certain she will do just that and serve the Federal judiciary and the State of Hawaii with reason, balance, and integrity.

Madam President, on a more personal note, I would like to make a few comments about Ms. Mollway's family background, because I have known Susan Oki Mollway virtually all her life.

The question that comes before us is why did she join the ACLU? People do things because of background or some experience in life.

As a young law student, she began to research the life of Japanese-Americans in the United States. And she came across rather strange decisions made by the Court and also by the Congress of the United States. These are chapters in the history of the United States that many of us would like to forget. But I think it might be well if we reviewed them at this moment.

Ms. Mollway found out, for example, that in 1922 the Supreme Court of the United States declared that Japanese were not qualified for citizenship; in other words, they were singled out among all the peoples of the United States and said, "You cannot be a naturalized citizen." Everyone else could be.

Then in 1924, the Congress of the United States, in enacting the immigration laws, declared that if people are not qualified for citizenship, they may not immigrate to the United States. So once again the Japanese were singled out and told that they may not come here as immigrants.

Then we all know that on December 7, that day of infamy, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Soon thereafter,