

MODIFICATION OF UNANIMOUS  
CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1642

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order governing consideration of S. 1642 be modified to provide that at the time available under the order, 2 hours be under the control of the managers, with the time equally divided and controlled; that time on first-degree amendments be limited to 30 minutes each, equally divided and controlled; that relevant second-degree amendments be in order and must be relevant to the amendment to which offered, and that an additional time of 15 minutes be available for any second-degree amendments which may be offered, equally divided and controlled; that upon the use or yielding back of all the time and the disposition of all amendments, the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill, with no further amendments in order after all time is expired, with the other provisions of the previous order remaining in effect.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL WAYNE  
DOWNING

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I would like to mark the passing of an American hero. Retired Four-Star GEN Wayne Downing, a native of Peoria, IL, passed away on Wednesday.

General Downing personified the ideal that was ingrained into him and all cadets at West Point: "Duty, Honor, Country."

He spent most of his adult life wearing his country's uniform and continued to answer the call to serve even after retirement.

When General Downing retired after 34 years of military service in 1996, he was one of the country's leaders on terrorism.

After three decades as an Army Ranger, he had spent more time developing and implementing anti-terrorist and insurgent tactics than just about any man alive.

His devotion to service came early in his life.

Growing up in Peoria, his mother would read to him news reports from the battlefields of Europe where his father, PFC Francis Downing, was part of the 9th Armored Division, leading the American charge into Nazi Germany.

Private First Class Downing was killed in March 1945 in one of the final engagements of World War II.

As he grew up fatherless, Wayne would spend hours listening to the

tales of his neighbor, a wounded combat veteran of the 101st Airborne division. It was while listening to those stories that he decided what he was going to do with his life.

He began his career in the Army as a junior officer in Vietnam, where he served two tours of duty and earned two Silver Stars, the Soldiers Medal, the Bronze Star with Valor and five oak leaf clusters, and the Purple Heart.

In 1974, he was hand-picked by his commander to help reform the famed Army Rangers.

During Operation Desert Storm in 1991, he commanded 1,200 U.S. Special Forces.

By the time he retired in 1996, General Downing was head of the U.S. Special Operations Command, in charge of the special operations forces of all the services, including the Navy's SEALs and the Army's Green Berets.

But retirement did not end General Downing's service to America. Two Presidents called him out of retirement to help them confront terrorism.

President Clinton tapped him to lead the investigation into the 1996 truck bomb attack that killed 19 U.S. servicemen and one Saudi and wounded 372 others at Khobar Towers, a U.S. military housing complex in Saudi Arabia.

After September 11, President Bush called General Downing out of retirement again to serve as his top counterterrorism advisor a post General Downing held for nine months.

There was not a man alive more qualified for the job.

Wayne Downing understood earlier than most the nature of the threat we face from terrorism, and he did his best to help craft a wise and effective response to that threat.

It is one of the mysteries of this life that a man who has faced such formidable foes would die from a microscopic enemy: bacterial meningitis. Family members say he died within 24 hours of contracting the illness. He was 67 years old.

I last saw General Downing on Memorial Day. He was the keynote speaker in Peoria at the dedication of a memorial to servicemembers who had died in World War I and World War II. I had the privilege of speaking at that same gathering.

When organizers of the dedication approached him about speaking, they were apologetic that they could offer him only a small stipend. Before they could finish their apology, General Downing interrupted and said it would be his honor to speak.

One of the names carved into the memorial belonged to his father.

As he rose to speak that day, it was raining. Someone tried to offer General Downing an umbrella, but he politely waved it away. He said to the crowd:

Many of you were infantry, and so was I. We didn't have umbrellas in the infantry.

He was a soldier's soldier to the end and a true patriot.

He will be missed. On behalf of the United States Senate, I would like to

extend my deepest condolences to General Downing's family, his colleagues and friends. Our nation joins you in your grief. I am honored to have known this great patriot, GEN Wayne Downing of Peoria, IL.

TRIBUTE TO DORIS G.  
PETERCHEFF

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I wish to honor a respected Kentuckian, Mrs. Doris G. Petercheff, for the many contributions she has made to raise the political discourse in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Doris has spent a lifetime advising and working for candidates and elected officials she believes in. She is respected for the sound judgment she offers and the solid reputation she has established. I have known Doris for many years and am glad to call her my friend.

On Thursday, July 5, 2007, the Somerset Commonwealth Journal published an article highlighting Doris's many years of service to Kentucky. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD and that the entire Senate join me in honoring this Kentuckian.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Somerset Commonwealth  
Journal, July 5, 2007]

A LIFETIME DEVOTED TO THE AMERICAN WAY  
(By Bill Mardis, Editor Emeritus)

"It's been a great ride!"

"That's how Doris G. Petercheff sums up her life in the political arena. In reality, her life has been molded by politics.

"I can't remember when politics was not discussed in my home," said Petercheff. "Quite frankly, it still is," she added.

"Petercheff, owner of One Acorn and Associates, a political consulting firm, is slowed by health problems, but her telephone still rings with questions about how to manage a political campaign.

"I interpret politics as people," said Petercheff. "That's one of the things we've forgotten—people. I love people. God gave me a talent in politics . . . to help people. I never had a doubt that the Lord provided me a way to work for Congressman (Tim Lee) Carter so I could help people." She was 5th District office manager for Carter for 18 years.

"Petercheff was reared in a political atmosphere. Her grandfather, Jacob N. Mayfield, owned and operated a country store in the Acorn community.

"Grandpa was a great patriot. He always displayed a large American flag at the store," Petercheff recalls.

"I thought that flag was so beautiful," she said. "I went up to Grandpa and said, 'Grandpa, what is that (flag)?' And he pulled me on his lap and told me what the flag was and how important it was.

"That was my first love of politics and my country," she remembers. "I was probably 3 or 4 years old at the time."

Mayfield was a magistrate for many years. Petercheff pointed out that those were the days before state courts were reorganized and magistrates performed many official duties such as marriages, signing birth certificates and other legal functions.

"Everybody came to the store. We were (the same as) Somerset at that time. We sold