

Ms. SNOWE. I thank my esteemed colleagues, Senator BINGAMAN and Senator MURKOWSKI, and those Senators who have taken part in this colloquy today as it shows an unprecedented effort to forge a bipartisan agreement to address the various issues relating to climate change and what our domestic approach and strategy should be for short and long term goals for stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations through U.S. actions. In addition, it will help the nation continue its efforts to carry out the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change signed by President George H.W. Bush in 1992 and ratified by the U.S. Senate. The major objective of the Conference is for the stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic, or manmade, interference with the climate system.

I am pleased that Title X calls for an Office of National Climate Change Policy in the White House and hope this direction is pursued as last year I expressed my concerns to the Administration that the national energy policy being developed in the White House should not be developed independently of our U.S. climate change policy. These policies should be seamlessly coordinated across a number of our federal agencies through a broad range of research activities and actions that begin to reduce our Nation's greenhouse gas emissions in an environmentally and technologically sound and economically feasible manner.

I am particularly pleased that Title XIII calls for an ocean and coastal observing system that will give us real time observations to help those of us on the Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Atmosphere, Oceans and Fisheries greater understand, assess and respond to both human-induced and natural processes of climate change and support efforts to restore the health of and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and living resources. Activities will also include research on abrupt climate change urged in December 2001 by the National Academies for NOAA research to identify the likelihood and potential impact of a sudden change in climate in response to global warming. I look forward to working with my colleague and the White House on this issue of great importance not only to me, but to the Nation, to the international community, and to those generations to follow.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for a period not to exceed 5 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN, SELECT,  
TARA L. LACAVERA, U.S. NAVY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Naval Officer, Captain, select, Tara L. LaCavera, upon her change of command from Naval Station Pascagoula. Throughout her career, Captain, select, LaCavera has served with distinction. It is my privilege to recognize her many accomplishments and to commend her for the superb service she has provided the Navy, the great State of Mississippi, and our Nation.

Captain, Select, LaCavera began her career as a Fleet Support Officer in 1980 after completing a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from the University of Georgia and attending the Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI. She served with distinction early in her career as Message Center Officer on the staff of Commander, Oceanographic Systems Command Atlantic; Regional Evaluation Center Watch Officer and Surveillance Training Operational Procedures Standardization at Naval Facility Brawdy, Wales, UK; Fleet Telecommunications Officer, Naval Telecommunications Area Master Station, Naples, Italy; and Intelligence Officer at Commander Naval Allied Forces Mediterranean, Naples, Italy. Later assignments included Administrative Department Head and Public Affairs Officer at NAS Whiting Field, FL; Protocol Officer and Special Assistant to the Commander, Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; and Executive Officer, Naval Station Norfolk, VA. She received a Master of Science degree in International Affairs from Troy State University in 1990 and was selected as a 1994 Federal Executive Fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

As Commanding Officer, Naval Station Pascagoula, Captain, select, LaCavera's foresight during the planning and execution of numerous construction projects greatly enhanced the quality of life for the many Sailors of the home ported ships and tenant commands. The results include construction of a new Gulf Coast USO and Learning Resource Center, major expansions of the Fire Department and cardio-fitness center/gymnasium, addition of an on-base service station, and site selection for an off-base military housing project. She was responsible for the intense coordination and certification procedures required for the unprecedented full weapons off-load of the USS COLE, DDG 67, that entailed the safe handling of 86.3 thousand pounds of explosives from the severely damaged destroyer. After the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001, Captain, select, LaCavera immediately executed an increased security posture, utilizing recalled reservist, auxiliary security force personnel, and available base assets to provide harbor patrol and protection for home ported ships and other pre-commissioning units located at Ingalls Shipyard. Her strong guidance

and leadership ensured that Naval Station Pascagoula's personnel, facilities, and weapons platforms were well protected.

Throughout her distinguished career, Captain, select, LaCavera has served the United States Navy and the nation with pride and excellence. She has been an integral member of, and contributed greatly to, the best-trained, best-equipped, and best-prepared naval force in the history of the world. Captain, select, LaCavera's superb leadership, integrity, and limitless energy have had a profound impact on Naval Station Pascagoula and will continue to positively impact the United States Navy and our nation. Captain, select, LaCavera relinquishes her command on April 25, 2002 and reports as Chief Staff Officer, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren, VA where she will continue her successful career. On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I wish Captain, select, LaCavera "Fair Winds and Following Seas."

#### SCOTTIE STEPHENSON

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, this past week a deep sense of sadness settled in on the Helms family—and countless other families as well. Scottie Stephenson's life was finally ended at age 80 by an unyielding illness.

Scottie had gone on to her reward after 80 years of loving and being loved by everybody around her. For various reasons, I had to cancel my plans to be there when the final tributes were being paid to this remarkable lady who was declared many times to be the First Lady of Capitol Broadcasting Company in Raleigh—which, is where I began my years in broadcasting—and where I ended them when in 1972 I allowed myself to be talked into seeking election to the U.S. Senate.

Mrs. Louise "Scottie" Stephenson never quite accepted the death of her handsome husband, Nelson W. Stephenson, whom she married in 1948 but who died in 1961.

Scottie knew the end was approaching early this year. We discussed it a number of times always with the conclusion that when it happened, she would probably be the No. One Gate Keeper serving Saint Peter. As her condition worsened, I set aside a time each day to be devoted to discussions with Scottie about those years gone by when she and I were officers of Capitol Broadcasting Company. Those, she used to remark, were the "salad days".

Then came that inevitable morning when I called and a tape responded. Scottie had mentioned that she would arrange that.

Jim Goodmon, now president and CEO of Capitol Broadcasting Company, was in high school when he began working nights at Capitol Broadcasting.

Our hometown morning paper, the News and Observer, published in its April 17 editions a comprehensive obituary outlining many of the aspects of