

federal laws on restructuring of the electricity industry can authorize wire charges or other fees to develop a pool of funding for energy R&D projects. The energy industries in West Virginia must play leading roles in developing resources to support R&D on environmentally compliant technologies for fossil-based power generation. Investment in implementing these technologies also will be required.

To retain the interest and involvement of West Virginia companies in the Industries of the Future program, it is necessary that we make rapid progress toward funding for joint projects, which will benefit their future survivability and competitiveness. We are currently working with five industry sectors (aluminum, steel, glass, chemicals and wood/forest products) and plan to add metal casting and mining. A budget of about \$1,750,000 per year would be required to run a meaningful state-level IOF program.

State and federal incentive programs that encourage companies to invest in new technologies that save energy and minimize emissions should be expanded. The U.S. DOE's existing program in National Industrial Competitiveness through Energy, Environment, Economics (NICE-3) is an effective mechanism to encourage private-sector investment in new energy efficient technologies.

The U.S. DOE's State Energy Program provides funding directly to the states, permitting them the flexibility to support energy initiatives that are uniquely important to their situations. In West Virginia, a cornerstone of the State Energy Program is our work with industry to identify process modernization opportunities. These industrial projects yield meaningful cost-savings and environmental benefits that are key to the long-term health of our nation's industries. International trade treaties require that our industries become more competitive. West Virginia became the first state to institute a state level Industry of the Future program.

Another important component of our energy program is the promotion of alternative fuels. Through the State Energy Program, we are supporting alternate fuels training programs, as well as development of a compressed natural gas fueling infrastructure. West Virginia was one of the first states to initiate a statewide Clean Cities program. The overall goal of the State Energy Program is to enhance our nation's energy security.

SUMMARY

In summary, production and utilization of fossil fuels, generation and transmission of electricity and energy intensive manufacturing industries dominate the economy of West Virginia. We envision our low-cost electricity and manufactured goods as being critical to the energy security and industrial competitiveness of the nation throughout the next century. The energy research needs and agenda outlined in this paper are of great importance to our state. We are committed to participating in partnerships and coalitions to develop resources and to carry out the R&D program. West Virginia wishes to participate fully in the energy/environment/economic policy debates. We very much appreciate the opportunity to present our thoughts to the Interior Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee and look forward to further discussions and actions.

EDUARD SHEVARDNADZE

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on January 25, 1998, this past Sunday, the President of Georgia, Eduard

Shevardnadze, celebrated his 70th birthday. President Shevardnadze is one of the central international political figures of our age, and has been pivotal in the transformation of the communist Soviet empire into a group of nation states which have now embraced the goals of individual freedom, democratic processes, and free market economics. It is noteworthy that this transformation, the dismantling of an empire with large intelligence and military forces, and with a history of inbred hostility toward the West, occurred absent any violent confrontation with the United States, or our European allies.

Much of the credit for this peaceful transformation, the ending of the Berlin Wall and the cooperation between the Soviet leadership and the United States on major arms control and reduction agreements, rightfully belongs to the enlightened and forceful personality of Mr. Shevardnadze. His role emphasizes the crucial part played by personalities in the shaping of the major events of human history. He serves as an example that history is shaped to a large extent by individual men, rather than by social movements or economic imperatives.

For instance, Russian cooperation with the United States in working to condemn, and then oust, Saddam Hussein's forces from their occupation of Kuwait was to a large extent due to the courageous support of Mr. Shevardnadze in the face of opposition from forces in Russia which wanted to preserve a historic Russian-Iraqi alliance. His help in establishing a cooperative relationship with the United States regarding the invasion of Iraq actually forced Gorbachev's hand and trumped the Soviet security bureaucracies. It has been well documented that Shevardnadze quickly shed the negative approach to East-West relations that was the hallmark of former Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko when Shevardnadze took over the Foreign Ministry of the Soviet Union in 1985. Both former Secretaries of States George Shultz and James Baker have written extensively about Shevardnadze and praised his many contributions to the ending of the cold war. As a former U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Jack Matlock, has written in the September 25, 1997, issue of the "New York Review of Books," "If Gorbachev had been served by a less imaginative and courageous foreign minister it is doubtful that the cold war could have been ended as rapidly and definitively as it was."

Shevardnadze served as Soviet Foreign Minister from 1985-1991, and presided over the rapid transformation of East-West relations and the end of the cold war. It was, as I have said, an extraordinary era in which we have all been fortunate to participate in and to witness. In 1991, Eduard Shevardnadze resigned as Soviet Foreign Minister in protest over what he perceived as the coming of a military dictatorship in

Russia, and he returned to his native Georgia. Georgia was in an advanced state of shambles, with the economy devastated following the breakup of the Soviet Union. The country was in a state of ruinous civil war. Shevardnadze entered political life there, and was elected president of Georgia in November 1995, with over 70 percent of the vote. Currently, he also serves as the Commander in Chief of the armed forces of Georgia, and has brought new hope, stability, and economic development to that nation. A new constitution has been adopted, and Shevardnadze has secured the transportation of Caspian oil through Georgia and negotiated a number of agreements with both Russia and the neighboring Caucasus states. As the current ambassador of Georgia to the U.S., the Honorable Tedo Japaridze, has written to me regarding President Shevardnadze's goals, "he is committed to build democracy in Georgia, brick by brick."

Eduard Shevardnadze is a man who has made a difference in our age, and he will continue to make a difference. He has many admirers in the United States, including myself, and I wish him well on the event of his 70th birthday.

I yield the floor.

Mr. ABRAHAM addressed the Chair.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN MCGOFF

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and a business leader from my State who recently passed away, Mr. John McGoff. Mr. McGoff was one of our State's most successful business leaders, making his fortune, and his impact, primarily in the area of publishing. He owned a number of news publications and was a great success, but I think he would prefer to be remembered for several other things he achieved in his lifetime.

First was his great sense of community spirit. Mr. McGoff was truly a man who loved the communities in which he lived. He invested considerably, out of his own resources, in the communities in which he resided, in the schools of those communities, in our State's university system, and in a variety of other valuable institutions.

In fact, when tribute was paid to him last Saturday, it was in an auditorium in the high school serving the tiny town in which he lived, an auditorium which he personally had built with his own dollars.

I think John McGoff also would want to be remembered as a man who loved his country. He put this love to the test by serving in the United States military. He served with distinction in the infantry during World War II, both in North Africa and in Europe. He also played an active role in the political process, in our State and at the national level.

He was committed to the discussion of public policy. And he acted on this

commitment, not only through the newspapers he owned, but also through his efforts to launch a variety of other publications, including one of today's most successful law journals, the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy, which he helped to initiate through personal investments.

Mostly, I think John McGoff would want to be remembered as a man who loved his family. Indeed, I can remember how, on virtually every occasion in which we were together I would receive a detailed account of every one of his children, what they were doing and what their most recent achievements and challenges were. When we paid him tribute last Saturday, each of those children was there to help remember their father and to pay great testament to his wonderful life.

So, on behalf, I know, of many people in our State who certainly will miss John McGoff and regret his passing, I want to say his was a full life, one of great success; the life of a person who loved his community, loved his country, loved his family—truly loved America and everything for which she stands.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— S. 1295

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I have a unanimous consent request with regard to S. 1295, which is the naming of the National Airport the Ronald Reagan Airport. But before I propound that request, let me say I want to make some comments after we have this request, about why we are doing this, and put in the RECORD some of the history about what is involved. I have been talking to the principal sponsor, Senator COVERDELL. I know he has been talking to Members on both sides of the aisle. Senator DASCHLE and I have talked about it. I don't think we have, it would appear, an agreement worked out as to how this is to be considered, but I hope we can continue to talk about why this is important, why we want to do it, and see if an agreement can be worked out. I think it is the right thing to do.

One week from Friday is the birthday of former President Ronald Reagan. I think it would be a very good and a magnanimous gesture by the Congress and by the President of the United States if he could be able to sign this bill on President Ronald Reagan's birthday. That is why the timing is critical and why we want to go ahead and begin to talk about it. Because Senators on both sides of the aisle had conflicts today, we are not going to be able to vote on it today—or would not have been able to vote on it, probably, today, anyway. But it is my hope, my intent, that we could get it done next Tuesday and then complete the process so we could do this in recognition of this great President.

I ask unanimous consent the Commerce Committee be discharged from

further consideration of S. 1297 and further the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration, and further, that there be one amendment in order relative to the modification of the original bill, with total time for debate limited to 2 hours equally divided between Senators MCCAIN and HOLLINGS or their designees, and, following the debate, the Senate proceed to a vote on or in relation to the amendment, to be followed by third reading and final passage. I further ask that if a rollcall vote is requested in relation to the amendment or passage, the votes be postponed to occur on Tuesday, February 3, at a time to be determined by the majority leader after notification of the minority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SANTORUM). Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object, and I will be compelled to object at this time, for several reasons.

First, there are a number of Democratic Senators who want the opportunity—to have a right to offer perhaps more than one amendment. There may or may not be opposition to this legislation, but there certainly is cause for some consideration of aspects to this issue that may not be as evident as we consider the prospect of a bill of this nature today: The costs associated with it; the process that we use in naming national or important public facilities; people have raised the question of whether it is appropriate for us to take the name Washington off of the name of this particular airport—ironically, the same month that we celebrate President Washington's birthday. So we celebrate not only one but two birthdays in February. The name Washington is very prominent in February, as is President Reagan's of course. Some have even asked whether the Reagan family wants this to be done.

So, Mr. President, there are a lot of very legitimate questions. As I say, there are a number of Democratic Senators who may or may not be in support of this legislation, following the exploration of many of these issues. So I do not think it would be in our best interests to proceed today. I have had some discussions with the distinguished majority leader about the matter, and will continue to do so in an effort to resolve these questions and try to find a way with which to assure that this issue is fully explored and debated without unnecessary delay.

So, on the basis of all of those relevant issues, Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I yield to the chairman of the committee that has jurisdiction in this area.

RENAMING WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT "RONALD REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT"

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader for bringing this

issue forward in an expeditious fashion. I do believe President's Reagan's upcoming birthday is an important time for us to mark this occasion. I thank Senator COVERDELL, whose original thought I believe this was, along with the encouragement of millions of Americans all across the country. I have a longer statement, I would say to the majority leader, that I would like to give after his remarks, but let me just say, briefly, I find this—I find this astounding, that we would block this. There have been many fallen leaders. There are many former Presidents we have had, and living Presidents, that—there has never been any problem with the naming of things. I have been told that there may be an effort to name the Justice Department after the late Robert F. Kennedy. I would strongly support such a thing and I believe most of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would also. But for us to block this at this time, given President Reagan's condition—which we all are very well aware of—I think is unfortunate and, even worse, if this blocks this well-intentioned proposal to honor one of the most decent and nonpartisan and kindly people that I have ever had the privilege of knowing in politics, I think it would be a terrible mistake.

I yield back to the majority leader. I will have further remarks later on. I thank the majority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. I thank the chairman of the committee, Senator MCCAIN, for his comments. I know we will be interested in hearing the balance of his comments. I thank him for allowing me to explain a little bit about what is going on here, if I could.

First of all I want to emphasize that the proposal is to name National Airport, which is commonly referred to as Washington National Airport, the Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. Washington National Airport was not named after George Washington. It was named after the District of Columbia, to denote a location, a physical location. I think everybody would understand that that would be appropriate, the Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

This idea, as I understand it, originally came from the immediately-past Governor of Virginia, the State where this airport is located. That was the first time I ever heard it was from former Governor George Allen.

The principal sponsor, Senator COVERDELL, has worked in previous Republican administrations, has been committed to this and has been doing very good work in the preparation for this to happen. As for my personal situation, I had the clear impression that this was something that was supported by the family and friends of the President.

But I also want to emphasize again something I noted earlier. The reason why we want to do it early is not just because we are looking for work, not