

a city transformed from that which had seen pain and anguish for thousands of years. Where barbed wire and armed soldiers had once stood was a magnificent area of trees and grass that now surrounds the renovated walls of the old city. I saw a rebuilt Jewish Quarter in the old city. But Mr. President, most importantly, I saw for myself that free and open access to their holy places for people of all faiths was not merely the goal in Jerusalem, it was the rule.

The city's parks were revitalized. Schools and museums and hospitals sprang up. Music and poetry once again rose into Israel's evening sky. The people came together as artists, architects, lawyers, and theologians in an effort that resulted in a city that no longer just survived but lived and breathed. The Talmud proclaims that "of the 10 measures of beauty that came down to the world, Jerusalem took nine." Mr. President, for the first time since those prophetic words were first formed, those "measures of beauty" saw the light of day.

Mr. President, the question that those brave, industrious people tried to answer is one that we still ask today: How can Jerusalem, which means "city of peace," an ancient symbol of humanity's aspirations for redemption, become a living city that does not betray the promise of its name? An answer tragically eludes us, still today, 30 years after Jerusalem's reunification.

The United States Congress has a long-standing commitment to a united Jerusalem governed by Israel. Seven years ago, Congress declared that Jerusalem "must remain an undivided city" and the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 unequivocally stated that Jerusalem should remain the undivided capital of Israel as a matter of U.S. policy. The resolution introduced by my friends Senator MOYNIHAN and Senator MACK clearly expresses our conviction that it should be so.

Mr. President, it is said that "one prayer in Jerusalem is worth 40,000 elsewhere." This resolution offers the voice of Congress to those voices coming from all over our Nation and the world praying for peace and prosperity for this most special city of all cities on this truly important day.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

AUTHORITY FOR RECORD TO REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 5 P.M.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Record remain open until 5 p.m. today for Members to submit statements or for the introduction of legislation.

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST— S. 419

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at the hour of 2

p.m., the Labor Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 419, a bill to prevent birth defects by developing and implementing new prevention and surveillance strategies and the Senate now proceed to its immediate consideration under the following limitation: one substitute amendment be in order to be offered by Senator BOND; that no other amendments be in order to the bill; and that there be 30 minutes equally divided for debate, with Senator BOND in control of 15 minutes and the ranking member in control of 15 minutes. Further, following the disposition of the amendment and the expiration or yielding back of time, the bill be read a third time and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill, as amended, with no intervening action or debate.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, the majority leader propounded a similar unanimous-consent request yesterday. As he recalls, I noted that we have not seen the amendment proposed by Senator BOND, nor has this legislation had the opportunity to be the subject of hearings or markup in the committee. Most importantly, however, since we still have not been able to resolve the matter pertaining to disaster relief, I am compelled to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard by the Chair. The majority leader is recognized.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUESTS— SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL AND AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO MEET

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at the hour of 2:05 p.m., the Senate begin 3 hours 55 minutes for debate only, to be divided equally between the two leaders or their designees, for discussions with respect to the supplemental appropriations bill, and that there be no motions in order during the approximately 4 hours of debate, other than a motion to adjourn by the majority leader or his designee.

I further ask unanimous consent that it not be in order for the Chair to entertain any unanimous-consent requests with respect to consideration of any supplemental appropriations bill during the 4-hour period described above.

And, finally, I ask unanimous consent that the Armed Services Committee be permitted to meet during the session of the Senate today, Wednesday, June 11.

In support of that unanimous-consent request, before the Chair puts the request, I would just like to observe that I know there are Senators who would like to be heard on this issue, on the supplemental appropriations bill, about what is in it, the importance of it, how it can be resolved, comments on language that is included, a whole variety of statements that I am sure Senators would like to make to show their

interest in and their suggestions as to how we deal with the supplemental appropriations bill. So I think to have 4 hours of debate makes good sense for the Senate to be able to hear what Senators have to say.

I also indicate to our colleagues that there are a lot of discussions underway, a lot of meetings underway. Today, we have been in direct contact with the White House on how some of these issues can be resolved. I have had conversations with Senator DASCHLE. We are communicating with the House leadership to see exactly how they plan to proceed and when that would be. I understand perhaps there is a meeting right now at the White House on some of the provisions of this issue. So I think and I hope that we are making some progress and that we can find some way to bring this issue to fruition in the next few hours. Hopefully, we can have some action on it before we go out this week.

But I think while we are doing that, we should be doing the business of the Senate, having hearings or markups in committees, particularly the Armed Services Committee, which is working on the defense authorization bill which we hope to have up next week in the Senate, and also so that we can continue our efforts to come to an agreement on how we deal with the supplemental appropriations, the Government shutdown provision language, the census language, to try to see how we can work out an agreement and what that language might be. It is very important we have an opportunity to do that this very afternoon. That is why I make the request. I urge it be considered and that it not be objected to.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader is recognized.

Mr. DASCHLE. I concur with the distinguished majority leader about the efforts now underway and his hope and expectation that at some point these efforts could lead to further success in resolving the impasse that we have faced now for some time. I appreciate his leadership and his personal involvement in making that effort.

I also have to note that there are many on our side of the aisle who have indicated strong objections to committees meeting during such time, so as not to lose the focus that we currently have. There are those who are involved in these efforts who need to be at these committee markups who would otherwise be occupied if they are prevented from participating in the discussions involving the disaster assistance legislation.

I would amend the unanimous-consent request propounded by the majority leader simply to suggest and propose a unanimous-consent agreement that would allow debate on the floor on

the supplemental, with debate equally divided with no further consent requests, presuming Senator DORGAN, of course, has had his opportunity to make a request, but that there be no committee meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, was there an objection to my request?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair heard objection early on.

Mr. LOTT. And you added a request of your own. Let me make sure I understand what it is. First, you are objecting to committee meetings, but you are asking consent that we take up what?

Mr. DASCHLE. That we have, as you suggested, debate on the Senate floor on the supplemental divided evenly for the next 4 hours, as the majority leader suggested.

Mr. LOTT. What supplemental is that?

Mr. DASCHLE. It would be the subject of the debate as you have proposed, as the majority leader has proposed. You had asked unanimous consent that there be debate only equally divided between the two leaders for discussions with respect to the supplemental appropriations bill. I am not suggesting we change that. I am simply saying let's keep our focus on that, and I would not object to a request that involved a discussion as the majority leader has proposed.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I believe I would object to that, but I have a counterproposal maybe we could consider. I do want to note also that the Finance Committee has requested consent to meet this afternoon, also to begin the process of markup on the reconciliation bill, which is required under the budget agreement. I believe it is going to be pretty bipartisan in its makeup, in terms of the spending provisions or the restraint on spending, whichever the case may be. And in order to have this legislation completed in the Finance Committee by, I believe it is the 18th of this month, we need to have them meeting.

But I ask unanimous consent, sort of in the vein of what Senator DASCHLE was talking about, that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 18, H.R. 581; and further, no amendments be in order, with the exception of one substitute amendment to be offered by the majority leader or his designee; that there be 1 hour total for debate on the bill and the amendment, to be equally divided in the usual form; and finally, that following the expiration or yielding back of time and the disposition of the substitute amendment, the bill be read a third time and the Senate proceed immediately to vote on passage of the bill, as amended, if amended, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair heard objection to the unanimous-consent request by the minority leader. We now have before us a uni-

mous-consent request by the majority leader. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object, I ask the majority leader if he could share a copy of the substitute amendment referred to in the unanimous-consent request.

Mr. LOTT. I don't have one now, but I believe that during this time, while we are debating the issue, we could develop one and, as a matter of fact, I believe there is a meeting at the White House right now that would be the subject of this substitute and one we could agree on.

Or I could do it this way. What I suggested yesterday, and where I think we actually should go, is a bill that provides the actual emergency disaster funds and the funds for DOD, but not the language and not the supplemental, just what has been referred to as a narrow disaster and emergency funding bill only, and the amount I am thinking about would be in the range of \$3.9 billion. That way, we would get this issue resolved quickly while we continue to work on such things as the census language, where we hope and think maybe we can come to some agreement. We get this thing done; we get it done now.

The House traditionally, as you very well know, is very sensitive about us acting before they do, but we could go ahead and have debate on this and take some action and hold it at the desk. I think this is one way to deal with this emergency. How would the Senator react to that?

Mr. DASCHLE. As I reiterated, again, this morning to the distinguished majority leader, I am more than happy to look at the language that he suggests. I think there may be a way to accommodate just the emergency and all related legislative proposals in the supplemental dedicated to dealing with the disasters throughout the country, emergency or whatever related matters those may be.

Obviously, we would have to see the language before we agreed to any kind of procedural commitment that would allow consideration of this yet unseen proposal.

So we would not be in a position right now, as the majority leader certainly understands, to agree to a unanimous-consent proposal until we have had the opportunity to see the language. But I think the majority leader is on the right track. And if that will break the impasse, I am willing to look at it.

Mr. LOTT. I appreciate the Democratic leader's comments on that. I hope that if we cannot find some other way to resolve the disagreements between now and 2 o'clock tomorrow, that he and I will consult maybe about the idea of doing just this tomorrow. And I do not want in any way to dampen the efforts that are underway to come to a broader total agreement. But in order to get this emergency addressed this week—hopefully within the next 24 hours—I think this is the way that we want to consider doing it.

I hope you will think about that between now and tomorrow and let us look at that as a possibility of what we might do at 2 o'clock tomorrow if something else has not already been worked out.

I again thank the Senator for his comments.

Mr. President, in view of the objection and the interests that we have, the committees meetings, the Finance Committee, the Armed Services Committee, the urgency of the work they are doing, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now stand in recess until the hour of 6 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LOTT. Before the Chair puts the question, I say to the Democratic leader, I made the request that we recess until the hour of 6 p.m. He is putting the question. I wanted to make sure you heard.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. No objection.

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

Thereupon, at 2:19 p.m., the Senate recessed until 6 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. MCCAIN).

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in the executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:01 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 848. An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of the AuSable Hydroelectric Project in New York, and for other purposes.