

RECORD, that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations were considered and confirmed as follows:

NATIONAL CONSUMER COOPERATIVE BANK

Harry J. Bowie, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank for a term of three years.

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Paul L. Hill, Jr., of West Virginia, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Paul L. Hill, Jr., of West Virginia, to be Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Richard A. Meserve, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a term of five years expiring June 30, 2004.

COAST GUARD

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) David S. Belz, 0000
Rear Adm. (lh) James S. Carmichael, 0000
Rear Adm. (lh) Roy J. Casto, 0000
Rear Adm. (lh) James A. Kinghorn, Jr., 0000
Rear Adm. (lh) Erroll M. Brown, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Ralph D. Utley, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard Reserve to the grade indicated under Title 10, United States Code, section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Carlton D. Moore, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Mary P. O'Donnell, 0000

The following named officer of the United States Coast Guard to be a member of the Permanent Commissioned Teaching Staff of the Coast Guard Academy in the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 188:

To be lieutenant commander

Kurt A. Sebastian, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Vivien S. Crea, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Kenneth T. Venuto, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. James W. Underwood, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. James C. Olson, 0000

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE COAST GUARD, NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Coast Guard nominations beginning Ernest J. Fink, and ending William J. Wagner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration nominations beginning Donald A. Dreves, and ending Kevin V. Werner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 1999.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want the Senate to know we are still working to get an agreement to take up consideration of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. We originally wanted to bring it up next week on October 6. That was objected to by the Democratic leadership. They indicated they thought more time was needed and they needed more time designated for debate. We have now offered to begin on October 8, next Friday, with debate. The debate would go up to 14 hours. We will conclude action on that treaty no later than the close of business on Tuesday, October 12.

We are willing to agree to more time on behalf of the leader's amendments if that is necessary. I believe the Democratic leader has indicated his willingness to go to the treaty debate on the 8th and be on it the 12th and conclude it by the 12th, but we are still working on details.

There were statements made by the President of the United States in 1998, I believe in his State of the Union Address, and again in 1999, that he wanted the Senate to take up the treaty. I have statements from a number of Democratic Members of the Congress calling for this to be done.

We have said to our colleagues on the other side of the aisle we don't think this is a good treaty; we think it puts safety in jeopardy; we think it puts us in a weakened condition internationally; and we think it is dangerous. However, since there have been calls and demands for a vote, we have offered to vote, and we have offered two different dates. We have offered time and more time.

I am a little bit puzzled why the Democrats now are saying: We don't want to vote. I presume they are say-

ing it because it may fail. The Senate will have a debate, and the Senate will vote. If there is not a two-thirds vote, it is over; it is defeated.

It is hard for me to understand. Do they want it or not? Do they want to debate or not? Do they want to vote or not? I think it shows a little bit about what has been going on all along.

I want to assure the Senate, there will be some hearings in the Armed Services Committee with experts in this field. There will be plenty of information on the record. If they want a vote, let's vote; if they don't, let's move on. I don't want to hear more about it for a while.

Having said that, I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant 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.

COMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDING OFFICER

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I commend the Presiding Officer on what an outstanding job he is doing. We appreciate the fact that on this beautiful Friday afternoon, approaching 3 o'clock, the distinguished Senator from Kentucky is here, on duty, and enjoying every moment of it.

Now, may I proceed to the closing?

Thank you for not responding, Mr. President, to my comments.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1999

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 12 noon on Monday, October 4. I further ask consent that on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m. with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each, and the time equally divided between the two leaders, or their designees.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. I remind Senators that on Monday, at 5:30 p.m., the Senate will proceed to the Transportation appropriations conference report, and a vote will occur immediately on adoption of that conference report, so there will be at least one recorded vote at 5:30 on Monday, and it is on the Transportation appropriations conference report. I think a lot of credit, once again,

goes to our Transportation appropriations subcommittee members. Senator SHELBY of Alabama has done a great job with a very important bill.

There may be other votes. There could be a vote on or in relation to relevant amendments on the FAA reauthorization bill, since that bill will be debated early in the day Monday. It could be that an amendment or amendments will be available for consideration at that time. But I wanted Senators to be on notice we do have the one vote for sure.

Also, all Senators should be aware we will convene at 12 noon and we will have a period for morning business until 12:30. We will take up the FAA reform bill the remainder of that day, then, on Monday, until 4:30, when we will go to, I believe it is, the judicial nominations discussion. We will very likely have recorded votes on Tuesday morning, and then we do have an agreement, I believe, to have recorded votes stacked on three nominations at 2:15 on Tuesday.

For the remainder of the week, the Senate will continue debate on the FAA reform bill and complete its action on Tuesday. Then we will return to the Labor-HHS appropriations bill and consider nominations and conference reports that are available. I understand that the Agriculture appropriations conference report will be available on Monday. We could have that vote Monday or Tuesday, if a recorded vote is necessary. We are hoping the Interior appropriations bill will be on the heels of that one, and I believe we are still waiting for the foreign operations conference report. We will interrupt or take as quick action as possible on the conference reports once they are received and we get notification that we intend to have a vote.

I do have one further unanimous consent request. I wanted the distinguished Senator from South Dakota to be here. We have continued to work to see if we can get an agreement to vote on the test ban treaty.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 6, the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of Treaty Document 105-28 and the document be placed on the Executive Calendar, if not previously reported by the committee.

I should note, that is something that was requested by the Democratic leadership, and we think it is a reasonable request.

I further ask consent that at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, October 8, the Senate begin consideration of Treaty Document 105-28 and the treaty be advanced through the various parliamentary stages, up to and including the presentation of the resolution of ratification, and there be

one relevant amendment in order to the resolution of ratification to be offered by each leader.

There was a request for additional time for that debate. Therefore, I ask consent that there be a total of 14 hours of debate on the treaty itself, to be equally divided in the usual form, and no other amendments, reservations, conditions, declarations, statements, understandings, or motions be in order, and that amendments be filed at the desk 24 hours before they are called up.

I think it is fair. If we are going to have an amendment on our side and the other side, we need some notification of its content.

There was a thought we might need additional time for discussion on those amendments. Therefore, I ask there be a time limitation of 4 hours equally divided on each amendment, in addition to the 14 hours, for a total of 18 hours over a 2-day period, but spread over a period of time that I believe will run about 6 days.

I further ask consent that following the use or yielding back of time and disposition of the amendments, the Senate proceed to vote on the adoption of the resolution of ratification, as amended, if amended, all without any intervening action or date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object, and I will not object, I think this unanimous consent request represents progress from the first request made by the majority leader. But I still believe this procedure is unfair, and I would even say dangerous.

This is the most significant treaty with which we will deal on nuclear proliferation maybe in the time that the majority leader and I will be leaders. We are going to be taking this up on the Senate floor without one hearing in the Foreign Relations Committee. We have looked back. We do not know when that has ever happened before, when the Foreign Relations Committee has not acted upon a treaty, even though it has been pending for 2 years.

We are hoping that the Committee on Armed Services will take up the treaty next week, but I believe that alone is irresponsible. But we believe we have no choice. Our choice is to send the message as an institution that this treaty is not important, it does not even deserve a hearing, or to send the message, God forbid, that the Senate would reject this treaty and say it was not the U.S. intention to send the message around the world that we will ban nuclear weapons testing. Those are the options on the negative side.

On the positive side, the option might be between now and October 12, we can convince the necessary two-thirds of the Senate to support this treaty. We still hope, we believe, that might be within our reach. But I know what some of the debate will be, and the Presiding Officer or the majority

leader will mark my words. We will hear somebody say this treaty is not verifiable, in spite of the fact that expert after expert has noted that it is verifiable, but there will have been no hearings to verify the fact that, indeed, this treaty is subject to all the verification elements required of a treaty of this kind.

We are going to hear all kinds of complaints and all kinds of allegations and rumors about what this treaty does or does not do, and when you do not have hearings, that is what is going to happen.

So we are extremely disappointed with the way this has been handled. As I said, I believe it is irresponsible and dangerous. But we also note this may be the best we can get, and if it is the best we can get, as troubled as we are, we will take it. We will have our day in court. We will make our best arguments. We will let the judgment of this Senate prevail.

I am very hopeful the administration will be engaged. I am very hopeful those who care as deeply as we care about this issue will join us in making the arguments and in dealing with the issue. I also say it is my intention, as Democratic leader, to conduct hearings of my own as part of the Democratic Policy Committee to ensure that we do have experts in Washington to express themselves. We will do that at the appropriate moment.

I do not object, but I must express very grave reservations.

Mr. LOTT. Has the Chair ruled?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROBERTS). Is there objection to the leader's request?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I appreciate the Democratic leader has agreed to this request. We have worked back and forth now over 2 or 3 days. This is a fair approach, especially with the two leaders' amendments, if they are needed, and a guarantee we will file them in time to take a look at them.

It is serious. I take it very seriously. I do want to make the Senator aware that at least one chairman has notified me he intends to have three hearings before the final vote—Senator WARNER of the Armed Services Committee, which certainly has an interest in this because of what it does involve, weapons.

I believe—I cannot confirm the exactness of these dates or that they will be able to do them all—he is thinking in terms of hearings on the 6th, 9th, and 12th, and that is a committee which has a great deal of jurisdiction. I do not know yet if Senator HELMS plans additional hearings before the 12th, although certainly that is a possibility now that we have a time agreed to.

In addition, I understand there have been discussions with regard to this treaty in the Foreign Relations Committee on February 10, 1998; May 13, 1998; June 3, 1998; June 18, 1998; July 13, 1998; February 24, 1999; and March 23,