

"(4) EXEMPTION.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the establishment and activities of an advisory group in accordance with this subsection.

"(d) LIMITATION.—The amount of a grant under this section shall not exceed \$100,000.

"(e) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal share of the costs of an activity conducted with a grant under this section shall be 25 percent of such costs.

"(2) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Secretary may apply to the non-Federal share of an activity conducted with a grant under this section the amount of funds, and the fair market value of property and services, provided by non-Federal sources and used for the activity.

"(f) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of amounts available each fiscal year to carry out this section, the Secretary may expend not more than 6 percent to pay the administrative expenses necessary to carry out this section.

"(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) DESIGNATED STRANDING REGION.—the term 'designated stranding region' means a geographic region designated by the Secretary for purposes of administration of this title.

"(2) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' has the meaning given that term in section 3(12)(A).

"(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2003, to remain available until expended."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3(12)(B) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1362(12)(B)) is amended by inserting "(other than section 408)" after "title IV".

(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the first section of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (86 Stat. 1027) is amended by striking the items relating to sections 408 and 409 and inserting the following:

"Sec. 408. John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue assistance Grant Program.

"Sec. 409. Authorization of appropriations.

"Sec. 410. Definitions."

NOTICES OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, October 19, 2000, at 3:00 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on potential timber sale contract liability incurred by the government as a result of timber sale contract cancellations.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC. 20510. For further information, please call Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the infor-

mation of the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, October 19, 2000, at 9:30 a.m. in room SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to conduct oversight on the Department of Energy's recent decision to release 30 million barrels of crude oil from the strategic petroleum reserve and the bid process used to award contracts regarding same.

For further information, please call Brian Malnak, Deputy Staff Director at (202) 224-8119 or Betty Nevitt, Staff Assistant at (202) 224-0765.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following Appropriations Committee staff members and intern be granted floor privileges during the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4461 for the fiscal year 2001 Agriculture Appropriations Act, and any votes that may occur in relation thereto: Rebecca Davies, Martha Scott Poindexter, Hunt Shipman, Les Spivey, Marc Dulaney, and Galen Fountain.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2000

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until the hour of 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 17. I further ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then proceed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 4461, the Agriculture appropriations bill, as under the previous order.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will not be in session on Monday. On Tuesday, the Senate will resume consideration of the conference report on this Agriculture appropriations bill—very important legislation. The debate will be limited to Tuesday's session and approximately 2 hours on Wednesday morning, with the vote scheduled to occur at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday on the Agriculture appropriations bill.

For the remainder of the week, the Senate is expected to complete all action necessary for sine die adjournment. I pause for applause. That is certainly what we should do. It is possible we can do it. We were able to get a

good deal accomplished this week. It took a lot of work on both sides of the aisle. We were able to get a package of five bills done, which included, of course, the sex trafficking issue as well as Aimee's law and the Violence Against Women Act. We were able to pass four appropriations bills and complete action on the Defense authorization bill and begin debate on the Agriculture appropriations bill.

Next week we will have to deal with the foreign operations conference report final passage in some form; the Commerce-State-Justice appropriations bill; the Labor-HHS and Education appropriations conference report, and there are several tax provisions that need to be considered, including the FSC issue that we have been trying to get cleared, a bill that came out of the Finance Committee to make sure the United States complies with WTO requirements. We need to get that completed as well as several other items that have broad support in the House and in the Senate and the administration.

So there are four categories that we will need to act on next week. I have been having conversations and meetings this morning with Members of both sides of the aisle and with the administration to try to help facilitate that.

I notice Senator CONRAD reacted positively to "both sides of the aisle."

I think it is clearly possible to complete our work by next Friday. I had hoped we could do it by Saturday, the 14th, but the unfortunate death of our friend and colleague, Congressman Vento from Minnesota, occurred and, therefore, Members are in Minnesota this morning for the funeral service. Clearly, we can get our work done next week, and we certainly will try to. Senators should expect votes throughout the day Wednesday and Thursday and into Friday, if it is necessary.

I yield to the Senator from North Dakota for a question or comment.

KEVIN SHAWN RUX

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, we have just learned very tragic news that a young man from my home State of North Dakota is among those now listed as missing and presumed dead on board the U.S.S. *Cole*.

He is Petty Officer 2nd Class Kevin Shawn Rux. I want to express my deepest sympathies to the family. Our Nation honors this young man for his service and sacrifice. Our prayers are with his family in their grief today, and with all the fathers, mothers, spouses, sons, and daughters of those who lost their loved ones in this terrible attack.

I want to reassure the family this Nation will not rest until we find the criminals responsible for the death of Kevin Shawn Rux and his shipmates. This country will hold them accountable for these murders. Again, we share the grief of the family of this young

man. He was doing his duty. He was serving his country. We admire very much his service, and we deeply respect his sacrifice.

My colleague from North Dakota would also like to comment. We would appreciate that.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, let me just say, Mr. President, I appreciate the fact that the Senator has raised this issue. It is appropriate that we acknowledge the service of our military men and women who are serving all over the world, more often than we realize, in very dangerous situations, and that we recognize those who lost their lives—in this instance, sailors on the U.S.S. *Cole*.

I, too, have a personal feeling about this. I would like to make some comments on it myself. Before I do that, I yield to Senator DORGAN from North Dakota for his remarks.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader. This was obviously a senseless act of terrorism. Acts of terrorism are, in most cases, perpetrated by cowards who want to inflict terrible mayhem on especially those from our country, but others around the world as well. Yesterday, when we learned the news that the U.S.S. *Cole* had been attacked, all of us were deeply saddened. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of the families of those who are now known dead and those who are presumed dead or missing.

As Senator CONRAD indicated, we have just learned from the U.S. Navy this morning that a young man named Kevin Rux from Portland, ND, is among those missing and presumed dead, according to the U.S. Navy. I want to add my voice to my colleagues' comments that my thoughts and prayers go out to his family. We are thinking of them and praying for them today. We feel the same about all of those who have been the victims of this attack. It tells us, once again, that this is a difficult and in some cases troubled world, and those who wear the uniform of this country in all parts of this globe, who stand for peace, do so at some risk to themselves and on behalf of a grateful Nation.

Again, I want to simply say we are thinking of the Rux family and all of the other families whose loved ones have become victims of this cowardly terrorist attack. I say, as well, that this country has said to its President and Members of Congress that those responsible for this attack must be found and brought to justice for it.

I yield the floor.

ORDER FOR RECORD TO REMAIN OPEN

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the RECORD remain open today until 1 p.m. for the introduction of statements by Members.

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

OUTSTANDING MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR SOPHISTICATED SHIPS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the U.S.S. *Cole* was built in my hometown of Pascagoula, MS. I have been on it. I have visited with the sailors, the crew, and officers on many of these ships—destroyers, cruisers, and LHDs—that are built there. It is always a thrilling experience to see the enthusiasm of these young men and women and the caliber of the young men and women who serve our country, and also the tremendous sophistication of these ships. These ships are the most sophisticated in the history of the world, with an incredible array of radar and weapons systems.

These ships can fire at 120 different targets simultaneously, using missiles and Gatling guns. They are incredible vessels. They are referred to as "aegis class" destroyers. They have a tremendous shield where they can track and identify targets or enemy activities. But we see, once again, no matter how big, how sophisticated, or how capable they are in destroying enemy ships or aircraft, they are still vulnerable to a suicide attack by two men on a small rubber vessel.

I think it is a very sobering thing that we are learning from this experience. You can be in a marine barracks

somewhere, in a hotel, in a public building, or on a sophisticated ship, and you are still vulnerable to this kind of attack. This is clearly an unjustified, heinous, indescribable act that has taken place, and I know that our Government will act very aggressively to protect and provide aid to those who are injured and work with the families who are certainly going through a period of grieving now. It will also try to identify exactly who did this, who gave the order, and be prepared to take swift and very strong action against those who did it.

I have no doubt that our Government will work in unity to accomplish that.

In addition to that, I have a list before me which is not yet ready for release, and I would not want to do it before it has been properly released. But there are at least 7 identified as dead now and another 10, at least, missing potentially, and likely now 17 sailors on that ship who lost their lives.

One of those was Ens. Andrew Triplett of Macon, MS. I have before me his record of service, and I take note that this is a young man who was very forward leaning and had advanced very quickly through the ranks to reach the position of ensign.

To his entire family, and particularly his mother, Savanna Triplett of Shuqualak, MS, I extend my sympathy and prayers and also the grateful appreciation of our Nation.

I know that Americans all over the world will be touched by what we have seen happen and will be thinking of the family and praying for them in this difficult time.

RECESS UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 17, 2000

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:07 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, October 17, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.