

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

AMENDMENTS NOS. 3378, 3379, AND 3380 EN BLOC

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendments by number.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), for Mr. THURMOND, proposes amendments numbered 3378, 3379 and 3380, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendments are agreed to.

The amendments (Nos. 3378, No. 3379, and No. 3380), en bloc, were agreed to, as follows.

AMENDMENT NO. 3378

Strike all after the resolved clause and insert the following:

That Congress, recognizing the historic significance of the 225th anniversary of the United States Army—

(1) expresses the appreciation of the people of the United States to the Army and the soldiers who have served in it for 225 years of dedicated service;

(2) honors the valor, commitment, and sacrifice that American soldiers have displayed throughout the history of the Army; and

(3) calls upon the President to issue a proclamation—

(A) recognizing the 225th birthday of the United States Army and the dedicated service of the soldiers who have served in the Army; and

(B) calling upon the people of the United States to observe that anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AMENDMENT NO. 3379

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas on June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress, representing the citizens of 13 American colonies, authorized the establishment of the Continental Army;

Whereas the collective expression of the pursuit of personal freedom that caused the authorization and organization of the United States Army led to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the codification of the new Nation's basic principles and values in the Constitution;

Whereas for the past 225 years, the Army's central mission has been to fight and win the Nation's wars;

Whereas whatever the mission, the Nation turns to its Army for decisive victory;

Whereas the 172 battle streamers carried on the Army flag are testament to the valor, commitment, and sacrifice of the brave soldiers who have served the Nation in the Army;

Whereas Valley Forge, New Orleans, Mexico City, Gettysburg, Verdun, Bataan, Normandy, Pusan, the Ia Drang Valley, Grenada, Panama, and Kuwait are but a few of the places where soldiers of the United States Army have won extraordinary distinction and respect for the Nation and its Army;

Whereas the motto of "Duty, Honor, Country" is the creed by which the American soldier lives and serves;

Whereas the United States Army today is the world's most capable and respected ground force;

Whereas future Army forces are being prepared to conduct quick, decisive, highly sophisticated operations anywhere, anytime; and

Whereas no matter what the cause, location, or magnitude of future conflicts, the

Nation can rely on its Army to produce well-trained, well-led, and highly motivated soldiers to carry out the missions entrusted to them: Now, therefore, be it

AMENDMENT NO. 3380

Amend the title so as to read: "A Joint Resolution recognizing the 225th birthday of the United States Army."

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 46), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The joint resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S.J. RES. 46

Whereas on June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress, representing the citizens of 13 American colonies, authorized the establishment of the Continental Army;

Whereas the collective expression of the pursuit of personal freedom that caused the authorization and organization of the United States Army led to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the codification of the new Nation's basic principles and values in the Constitution;

Whereas for the past 225 years, the Army's central mission has been to fight and win the Nation's wars;

Whereas whatever the mission, the Nation turns to its Army for decisive victory;

Whereas the 172 battle streamers carried on the Army flag are testament to the valor, commitment, and sacrifice of the brave soldiers who have served the Nation in the Army;

Whereas Valley Forge, New Orleans, Mexico City, Gettysburg, Verdun, Bataan, Normandy, Pusan, the Ia Drang Valley, Grenada, Panama, and Kuwait are but a few of the places where soldiers of the United States Army have won extraordinary distinction and respect for the Nation and its Army;

Whereas the motto of "Duty, Honor, Country" is the creed by which the American soldier lives and serves;

Whereas the United States Army today is the world's most capable and respected ground force;

Whereas future Army forces are being prepared to conduct quick, decisive, highly sophisticated operations anywhere, anytime; and

Whereas no matter what the cause, location, or magnitude of future conflicts, the Nation can rely on its Army to produce well-trained, well-led, and highly motivated soldiers to carry out the missions entrusted to them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress, recognizing the historic significance of the 225th anniversary of the United States Army—

(1) expresses the appreciation of the people of the United States to the Army and the soldiers who have served in it for 225 years of dedicated service;

(2) honors the valor, commitment, and sacrifice that American soldiers have displayed throughout the history of the Army; and

(3) calls upon the President to issue a proclamation—

(A) recognizing the 225th birthday of the United States Army and the dedicated service of the soldiers who have served in the Army; and

(B) calling upon the people of the United States to observe that anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

NOMINATION OF JOHN A. GORDON

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, could I interrupt the proceedings here momentarily and get the attention of the distinguished Democratic leader and the ranking member of the Armed Services Committee?

Early this morning, I say to the distinguished minority leader, on the subject of General Gordon, we talked and I talked to the majority leader. I think there is a consensus that tomorrow morning at some point his nomination can be voted upon.

Could we, at the conclusion of this day, before it is finished, at least represent that?

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, in response to the senior Senator from Virginia, let me say we have no objection to moving to the nomination, with the understanding that at a date no later than a date that we could mutually agree to, we deal with the accompanying nomination.

I think that understanding has now been made, and I believe we can proceed to the first piece of this with that understanding.

Mr. WARNER. I thank our distinguished leader.

Mr. LEVIN. If the Senator will yield on that point, General Gordon has very strong support on both sides of the aisle. He is a Presidential nominee who has gotten a very positive response from just about everybody I know. I think the people look forward to voting on his nomination as early as possible tomorrow morning.

Again, I think there is an effort being made to set a deadline for another vote on a nominee to the same Department, someone who has been waiting for a long time.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, if the Senator will yield for another moment, Madelyn Creedon has been on the calendar since April 13, and General Gordon has been on the calendar since May 24.

We have no objection to moving to General Gordon first, even though he was just reported out a couple of weeks ago, and Mrs. Creedon has been now on the calendar for almost 2 months, with some understanding that we can move to the Creedon nomination no later than a time on which we can agree.

We have no reason not to want to move to the Gordon nomination.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, it would be no longer than the day or day after we return from the July 4 recess.

Mr. DASCHLE. That is acceptable, Mr. President.

Mr. WARNER. July 11 or July 12.

Mr. DASCHLE. With the understanding we would vote no later than July 11, we have no reservations.

Mr. WARNER. Could we make it July 12? I am not in a position to know exactly when votes are ordered on the return.

Mr. DASCHLE. We will make it the July 12.

Mr. LEVIN. If the Senator will yield on that, that opens the possibilities

that we would vote on that nomination prior to the recess because it says "no later than."

Mr. WARNER. It does not foreclose earlier consideration. I thank my colleagues.

I yield the floor.

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE FATHER'S DAY

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 322, introduced earlier today by Senators BAYH, DOMENICI, and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 322) encouraging and promoting greater involvement of fathers in their children's lives and designating June 18, 2000, as "Responsible Father's Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. ENZI. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, a motion to consider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 322) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 322

Encouraging and promoting greater involvement of fathers in their children's lives and designating June 18, 2000, as "Responsible Father's Day".

Whereas 40 percent of children who live in households without a father have not seen their father in at least 1 year and 50 percent of such children have never visited their father's home;

Whereas approximately 50 percent of all children born in the United States spend at least ½ of their childhood in a family without a father figure;

Whereas nearly 20 percent of children in grades 6 through 12 report that they have not had a meaningful conversation with even 1 parent in over a month;

Whereas 3 out of 4 adolescents report that "they do not have adults in their lives that model positive behaviors";

Whereas many of the United States leading experts on family and child development agree that it is in the best interest of both children and the United States to encourage more two-parent, father-involved families to form and endure;

Whereas it is important to promote responsible fatherhood and encourage loving and healthy relationships between parents and their children in order to increase the chance that children will have two caring parents to help them grow up healthy and secure and not to—

(1) denigrate the standing or parenting efforts of single mothers, whose efforts are heroic;

(2) lessen the protection of children from abusive parents;

(3) cause women to remain in or enter into abusive relationships; or

(4) compromise the health or safety of a custodial parent;

Whereas children who are apart from their biological father are, in comparison to other children—

(1) 5 times more likely to live in poverty; and

(2) more likely to—

(A) bring weapons and drugs into the classroom;

(B) commit crime;

(C) drop out of school;

(D) be abused;

(E) commit suicide;

(F) abuse alcohol or drugs; and

(G) become pregnant as teenagers;

Whereas the Federal Government spends billions of dollars to address these social ills and very little to address the causes of such social ills;

Whereas violent criminals are overwhelmingly males who grew up without fathers;

Whereas the number of children living with only a mother increased from just over 5,000,000 in 1960, to 17,000,000 in 1999, and between 1981 and 1991 the percentage of children living with only 1 parent increased from 19 percent to 25 percent;

Whereas between 20 percent and 30 percent of families in poverty are headed by women who have suffered domestic violence during the past year and between 40 percent and 60 percent of women with children who receive welfare were abused at some time in their life;

Whereas millions of single mothers in the United States are heroically struggling to raise their children in safe, loving environments;

Whereas responsible fatherhood should always recognize and promote values of non-violence;

Whereas child support is an important means by which a parent can take financial responsibility for a child and emotional support is an important means by which a parent can take social responsibility for a child;

Whereas children learn by example, community programs that help mold young men into positive role models for their children need to be encouraged;

Whereas promoting responsible fatherhood is not meant to diminish the parenting efforts of single mothers but rather to increase the likelihood that children will have 2 caring parents to help them grow up in loving environments; and

Whereas Congress has begun to take notice of this issue with legislation introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate to address the epidemic of fatherlessness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the need to encourage active involvement of fathers in the rearing and development of their children;

(2) recognizes that while there are millions of fathers who serve as a wonderful caring parent for their children, there are children on Father's Day who will have no one to celebrate with;

(3) urges fathers to participate in their children's lives both financially and emotionally;

(4) encourages fathers to devote time, energy, and resources to their children;

(5) urges fathers to understand the level of responsibility required when fathering a child and to fulfill that responsibility;

(6) is committed to assist absent fathers become more responsible and engaged in their children's lives;

(7) designates June 18, 2000, as "National Responsible Father's Day";

(8) calls upon fathers around the country to use the day to reconnect and rededicate themselves to their children's lives, to spend "National Responsible Father's Day" with their children, and to express their love and support for their children; and

(9) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe "National Responsible Father's Day" with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AWARD OF MEDAL OF HONOR TO ED W. FREEMAN, JAMES K. OKUBO, AND ANDREW J. SMITH

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2722, introduced earlier today by Senator AKAKA.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2722) to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to Ed W. Freeman, James K. Okubo, and Andrew J. Smith.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I am proud to introduce legislation which would award the Medal of Honor to James K. Okubo, Ed W. Freeman, and Andrew J. Smith. There is no doubt that these three individuals are deserving of this award based on their brave and selfless service in defense of our great nation. The passage of this measure makes it possible for these men to receive a long overdue and well-deserve honor.

This legislation marks the culmination of my efforts to recognize James K. Okubo for his acts of gallantry during World War II. James K. Okubo was born in Anacortes, Washington, raised in Bellingham, Washington, and interned at Tule Lake, California. Mr. Okubo entered military service in Alturas, California on May 22, 1943 and was discharged from the Army in December 1945. Following his military service, Mr. Okubo was a professor at the University of Detroit Dental School. Mr. Okubo passed away following a car accident in 1967.

Mr. Okubo (Tec 5) served as a medic, member of the Medical Detachment, 442nd Regimental Combat Team. For his heroism displayed over a period of several days (October 28, 29 and November 4, 1944) in rescuing and delivering medical aid to fellow soldiers during the rescue of the "Lost Battalion" from Texas, he was recommended to receive the Medal of Honor. The medal, however, was downgraded to a Silver Star. The explanation provided at the time was that as a medic, James S. Okubo was not eligible for any award higher than the Silver Star.

Due to my concern that Mr. Okubo did not receive full recognition for his acts of heroism and bravery, I requested reconsideration of Mr. Okubo's case under section 1130, Title 10 of the United States Code. The Senior Army Decorations Board reviewed the case and submitted it to Secretary Caldera recommending an upgrade to the Medal of Honor. Secretary Caldera approved the recommendation which resulted in this important measure.