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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, October 4, 2004, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2004

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS.)

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O, God, who sends showers to soften the soil and cause plants to sprout, You are the source of all life. You have challenged us to number our days, not our weeks, months, or years. Give us wisdom to comprehend the brevity and uncertainty of our life's journey. Forgive us when we boast about tomorrow, forgetting that our times are in Your hands.

Today, bless our lawmakers and their staffs. Remind them that they belong to You and that You will order their steps. As they wrestle with complex issues, help them seek Your wisdom and guidance. Empower them as stewards of Your bounty, as You make them faithful in the vocation to which You have called them.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, good morning to everyone.

Today, we once again will return to the intelligence reform legislation sponsored by Senators COLLINS and LIEBERMAN. This week, we have made steady progress. As we set out, we will be completing this bill in the near future, but we have a number of amendments. I thank both of the managers for their patience and willingness to work through a maze of amendments.

We had all amendments submitted 2 days ago and all the language for the amendments as of yesterday. The managers and staff and Senators have been working hard over the course of the night to look at the amendments, to address them, and to establish an order to which they can be addressed over today and Monday.

As announced last night, there will be no rollcall votes today. We will have a full day of debate with a number of people speaking on their individual amendments. We will continue to move forward. A number of Senators have committed to being present today to offer their amendments. I thank them in advance for their participation. I encourage them to talk to the managers as to roughly when we will be discussing each of those amendments.

Monday, the plans are to stack the votes. We will have a series of votes, probably beginning around 3 o'clock Monday. There will be a series of rollcall votes beginning midafternoon. The specific time we will announce a little bit later today.

The Democratic leader and I have come to the Senate floor regularly over

the course of the last week to comment on the progress being made on the bill. We will continue to monitor the progress. The bill itself is being discussed after full hearings in August and months and months of work, so the objective of completing this bill in the near future, both the internal organization, reorganization, and external by the time we depart, is the goal we hope to accomplish. We need to continue with the deliberative process, but we do need to bring the bill to a conclusion; therefore, there is a sense of urgency to have Members come to the Chamber and discuss their amendments.

We had, as of 4 o'clock yesterday, 233 filed amendments. The Senate has considered 34 amendments thus far, and 15 have been adopted, 5 tabled, and 14 are still pending.

Having said that, cloture may be a necessary tool. Again, the Democrat leader and I have been in consultation. We first mentioned cloture a couple days ago. It is a tool we might use. I point out that amendments that have been filed that are ready to be considered right now and even after cloture will remain, and we have 30 hours and could consider, of course, at that point all germane amendments.

I will be in consultation with the Democratic leader over the course of the day. We will have a full day today. I appreciate everyone's consideration.

We are also—not on the Senate floor but in a task force—considering the Senate's oversight of intelligence and homeland security. A number of people are asking: What is the appropriate vehicle? We are concentrating through

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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the Collins-Lieberman bill on the external relationships, but what about the internal relationships? The appropriate vehicle and the vehicle that has been set up by the Democratic leader and myself is through Senate resolution where specific changes to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence would be entertained and where we would deal with the changes in the Senate results, especially as it applies to committee jurisdictions.

It is my hope we can come to final agreement on this package by next Friday. The Democratic leader and I await the specific recommendations from the task force we appointed about a month ago.

We have had a long week, a very productive week. We have accomplished a great deal. The task before the Senate is in reforming the intelligence community's responsibility and oversight. It is a huge but an essential task. We learned on 9/11 how our enemies are working day and night to visit terror on our soil. That is what we have learned since September 11. They dream of ever more catastrophic attacks. They plot and they plan in the false belief that they will elude capture. They are absolutely wrong.

The work we do this week and next week in the Senate will strengthen our defenses and it will improve our ability to gather data, to analyze data, and to defeat our enemies. It will help us find them and to stop them and bring them to justice. When we are done, America will be safer and more secure.

DARFUR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I will comment briefly on a topic that we will not be addressing in the Senate, and therefore, before we dive into the bill, I will mention the issue of the Sudan.

Just to update my colleagues because on occasion it has been on the front page, but we have not heard as much about it over the last several weeks, yet what is occurring, what we have called genocide in this body and in the House of Representatives, indeed, continues to occur.

Two and a half weeks ago, the U.N. Security Council passed a second resolution on the Sudan. This resolution holds out the threat of sanctions on Sudan's leaders and its oil industry if the Government fails to act, fails to curb the ethnic violence in Darfur.

The Darfur region is in western Sudan. The Darfur region is about the size of France. Around 50,000 people have died in that region in the last several months, with hundreds of thousands more at risk.

I am very pleased by the action of the United Nations, even though, despite the best efforts of the United States, I believe the resolution should have been a lot tougher and it would have had a much greater impact. It is no surprise some countries do not share our outrage and determination to end those atrocities.

Even after making modifications, the vote on the Security Council was 11 to 0, with Algeria, China, Pakistan, and Russia abstaining.

The measure calls upon Secretary General Kofi Annan to create an international commission to determine if the campaign by marauding Arab militias—that Jinjaweed—against the villagers of Darfur in western Sudan has reached the level of genocide.

The resolution also reinforces the role of the 53-member African Union in taking the lead in calming the situation in Darfur and calls on other nations and the Government of Sudan to help it expand its presence there with thousands of additional troops.

As the international community knows, the Congress made this determination in late July. It was no secret then, nor is it now, that the Jinjaweed are supported and directed by Khartoum; that is, by the Government of Sudan, which has a sovereign responsibility to not do that but protect its people, not to kill them.

The Jinjaweed have killed or participated in the deaths of up to about 50,000 people in Darfur. They have engaged in mass rape of women and girls and destroyed crops and polluted water supplies. They have forced over 1.2 million people to leave their homes, leave their villages, once pillaged.

Last month, as I mentioned on the floor of the Senate, I had the opportunity to travel through a refugee camp called Tulum, which is right on the border, about 30 kilometers from the border in Chad, where many people have fled over the border. I had an opportunity to talk to women in little makeshift tents, women who had lost their husbands, killed by the Jinjaweed, who were separated from their children, lost as they had to flee their burning villages.

It is wrong. We have spoken on this floor. We need to continue to speak and to act and to encourage the United Nations to act.

The United States, under President Bush's leadership, has led the way globally on this issue from the beginning. It does, once again, show the importance of the United States acting even if the world community is slow to react, as we saw in the abstention of the resolution the other day by Algeria, China, Pakistan, and Russia.

The United States has supplied well over 70 percent of the humanitarian effort and other supplies going to survivors now in Darfur and in that eastern part of Chad, and we have been providing assistance there for years. So we need to be very proud as a nation. In parts of the Darfur region, we are providing 90 to 95 percent of all the world aid going in to assist the people in those regions.

We need to do a lot more. We need to work with and encourage the international community to do its share, especially the countries of the European Union and Arab League.

This month, Secretary of State Colin Powell came before the Senate Foreign

Relations Committee and declared that the State Department's studied judgment is that genocide has indeed occurred. Last night, in the debates, we heard both Senator KERRY, from this floor, and the President of the United States call what is occurring in Darfur genocide. It is now time for the international community to act.

Multiple sources are reporting from the region that attacks by both the Jinjaweed and Government forces—again, it is the Government forces who are, through direct and indirect aid, supporting this militia called the Jinjaweed—are still occurring despite the U.N.'s passage of Resolution 1556 last month that, among other things, called for a halt to such actions.

I am pleased by the passage of this latest U.N. resolution, but I am not optimistic. I am pleased but not optimistic. Khartoum did not live up to the requirements set forth in the U.N.'s July 30 resolution, so why do we believe they will now?

Khartoum will not end its genocide until it has either completed it or until it faces stiff international actions that compel it to stop. We need the international community to stand up. The United States is standing up. We need the international community to stand up.

This body has unanimously passed, since that time, a second resolution urging the Secretary of State to take appropriate actions within the U.N. to "suspend" Sudan's membership on the U.N. Human Rights Commission. Such an action would be consistent with our obligations under the 1948 Genocide Convention and help preserve the integrity of this commission; that is, the United Nations Human Rights Commission. Failure to take this action, I believe, mocks the principles and purpose for which the commission was formed; that is, human rights. Yet in Sudan we have what we have called, and with the ravaging of villages we have seen, genocide.

Further, our resolution passed on this floor calls upon the Secretary of State to pursue Sudan's permanent removal from the U.N. Human Rights Commission if the U.N. determines, as it should, that genocide has been committed in the Darfur and that Khartoum is responsible.

The U.N. cannot continue to pass resolution after resolution nor can the international community stand idly by while thousands die monthly in these remote regions of Sudan and eastern Chad. Our failure to act is not just another failure of the U.N., it is a failure of our own humanity.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.