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PRAYER IN SENATE

On February 6, 1939, the Senate adopted the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Chaplain shall open each calendar day's session of the Senate with prayer." [1]

On February 29, 1960, the Senate adopted a resolution that "during the sessions of the Senate when that body is in continuous session, the Presiding Officer shall temporarily suspend the business of the Senate at 12 o'clock noon each day for the purpose of having the customary daily prayer by the Chaplain of the Senate." [2]

Therefore, when the Senate is in continuous session, the Presiding Officer is required to suspend the business of the Senate at 12 o'clock noon for the purpose of having the customary daily prayer by the Chaplain of the Senate.[3]

Senators have rendered the prayer for the Chaplain.[4]

On one occasion, the Senate was convened by the President pro tempore and immediately recessed pursuant to a motion by the Acting Majority Leader without a prayer being offered.[5]

After President John F. Kennedy was shot, the Chaplain of the Senate at the request of the Majority Leader led the Senate in prayer, and the Senate then adjourned for three days.[6] After an assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan, a prayer was offered at the request of the Majority Leader by a Senator who was an ordained minister, and the Senate recessed shortly thereafter.[7]

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[1] Feb. 6, 1939, 76-1, *Journal*, p. 93.

[2] Feb. 29, 1960, 86-2, *Record*, p. 3709; *see also* Mar. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 1960, 86-2, *Record*, pp. 3963, 4145, 4316, 4487, 4615; Mar. 8, 1960, 86-2, *Record*, pp. 4893-94.

[3] Dec. 16, 1982, 97-2, *Record*, p. 31438; June 11, 1980, 96-2, *Record*, p. 14105; Oct. 14, 1978, 95-2, *Record*, p. 37616.

[4] Mar. 24, 1960, 86-2, *Record*, pp. 6451-52; Mar. 8, 1960, 86-2, *Record*, p. 4860; Aug. 5, 1959, 86-1, *Record*, p. 15128; Aug. 9, 1957, 85-1, *Record*, p. 14155; July 23, 1954, 83-2, *Record*, p. 11505; Feb. 8, 1974, 93-2, *Record*, 2797.

[5] May 31, 1984, 98-2, *Record*, p. 14574.

[6] Nov. 22, 1963, 88-1, *Record*, p. 22693.

[7] Mar. 30, 1981, 97-1, *Record*, p. 5739.