

For their sake, we should fix our priorities now—as this amendment attempts to do—and include funding for contingency operations in the fiscal year 1996 budget now.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1147. An original bill to extend and reauthorize the Defense Production Act of 1950, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-134).

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 2108. A bill to permit the Washington Convention Center Authority to expend revenues for the operation and maintenance of the existing Washington Convention Center and for preconstruction activities relating to a new convention center in the District of Columbia, to permit a designated authority of the District of Columbia to borrow funds for the preconstruction activities relating to a sports arena in the District of Columbia and to permit certain revenues to be pledged as security for the borrowing of such funds, and for other purposes.

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Con. Res. 22. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should participate in Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

Beth Susan Slavet, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board for the term of seven years expiring March 1, 2002.

William H. LeBlanc III, of Louisiana, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Rate Commission for a term expiring November 22, 2000.

Jerome A. Stricker, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board for a term expiring September 25, 1998.

Jacob Joseph Lew, of New York, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sheryl R. Marshall, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board for a term expiring October 11, 1998.

Stephen D. Potts, of Maryland, to be Director of the Office of Government Ethics for a term of five years.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Bette Bao Lord, of New York, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of two years.

Alberto J. Mora, of Florida, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of two years.

Marc B. Nathanson, of California, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of three years.

Joseph A. Presel, of Rhode Island, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Negotiator for Nagorno-Karabakh.

Carl Spielvogel, of New York, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of one year.

Mark D. Gearan, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Peace Corps.

David W. Burke, of New York, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of three years.

Tom C. Korologos, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of three years.

Edward E. Kaufman, of Delaware, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of two years.

Cheryl F. Halpern, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term of one year.

Lee F. Jackson, of Massachusetts, to be United States Director of the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development.

Stanley Tuemler Escudero, of Florida, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Nominee: Stanley T. Escudero.

Post: Uzbekistan.

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self, none.
2. Spouse, none.
3. Children and spouses names, S. Alexander C. Escudero (unmarried), none; W. Benjamin P. Escudero (unmarried), none.
4. Parents names, Estelle T. Damgaard, none; Stanley D. Escudero (father, deceased).
5. Grandparents names, William Tuemler, deceased; Mary Tuemler, deceased; Manuel Escudero, deceased; Mabel Escudero, deceased.
6. Brothers and spouses names, none.
7. Sisters and spouses names, none.

William Harrison Courtney, of West Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Georgia.

Nominee: William H. Courtney.

Post: Ambassador to Georgia.

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self, none.
2. Spouse, none.
3. Children and spouses names, none.
4. Parents names, none.
5. Grandparents names, none.
6. Brothers and spouses names, none.
7. Sisters and spouses names, none.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. PRESSLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

John Goglia, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for the term expiring December 31, 1998.

Robert Talcott Francis, II, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for the term expiring December 31, 1999, vice John K. Lauber, term expired, to which position he was appointed during the last recess of the Senate.

Jay C. Ehle, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Advisory Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

REPORTS OF A COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of a committee were reported on August 10, 1995:

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Treaty Doc. 103-29 Treaty Convention on Income Tax with Sweden (Exec. Rept. 104-4).

TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE-RECOMMENDED

RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Sweden for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed at Stockholm on September 1, 1994, together with a related exchange of notes (Treaty Doc. 103-29).

Treaty Doc. 103-30, Treaty Doc. 104-11, Treaty Convention on Income Tax with Ukraine (Exec. Rept. 104-5).

TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE-RECOMMENDED

RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Ukraine for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, with Protocol, signed at Washington on March 4, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-30); and the Exchange of Notes Dated at Washington May 26 and June 6, 1995, Relating to the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Ukraine for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, Together With a Related Protocol, signed at Washington on March 4, 1994, (Treaty Doc. 104-11).

Treaty Doc. 103-31, Treaty Convention on Income Tax with Mexico (Additional Protocol Modifying) (Exec. Rept. 104-6).

TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE-RECOMMENDED

RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT

Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Additional Protocol that Modifies the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States for the Avoidance

of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income signed at Washington on September 18, 1992. The Additional Protocol was signed at Mexico City on September 8, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-31).

Treaty Doc. 103-32, Treaty Convention on Income Tax with the French Republic (Exec. Rept. 104-7).

TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE-RECOMMENDED
RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT

Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the French Republic for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed at Paris on August 31, 1994, together with two related exchanges of notes (Treaty Doc. 103-32). The Senate's advice and consent is subject to the following declaration, which shall not be included in the instrument of ratification to be signed by the President:

That is the Sense of the Senate that the tax relief available under paragraph 5(b) of Article 30 of the proposed Convention, which exempts certain interest payments to French subsidiaries from United States tax to the extent that United States tax is imposed on such payments under subpart F of Part III of subchapter N of chapter 1 of subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code ("subpart F"), should be automatically available to any French subsidiary that is a controlled foreign corporation under Section 957 of the Internal Revenue Code to the extent that such payments are taxed under subpart F. The Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service shall negotiate with their Dutch counterparts an application of Paragraph 8 of Article 12 of the U.S.-Netherlands Tax Treaty consistent with the French Treaty as described above and grant a long-term exemption from United States tax for interest paid to Dutch subsidiaries to the extent such interest is taxed under subpart F.

Treaty Doc. 103-34, Treaty Convention on Income Tax with the Portugal (Exec. Rept. 104-8).

TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE-RECOMMENDED
RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT

Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein) That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Portuguese Republic for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, together with a related Protocol, signed at Washington on September 6, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-04). The Senate's advice and consent is subject to the following two understandings, both of which shall be included in the instrument of ratification to be signed by the President and the following two declarations, neither of which shall be included in the instrument of ratification to be signed by the President:

(a) Understanding: That if the Portuguese Republic changes its internal policy with respect to government ownership of commercial banks in a manner that has the effect of exempting from U.S. tax the U.S.-source interest paid to Portuguese commercial banks under paragraph 3(b) of Article 11, the Government of Portugal shall not notify the Government of the United States and the two Governments shall enter into consultations with a view to restoring the balance of benefits under the proposed Convention;

(b) Understanding: That the second sentence of paragraph 2 of article 2 of the pro-

posed Convention shall be understood to include the specific agreement that the Portuguese Republic regularly shall inform the Government of the United States of America as to the progress of all negotiations with and actions taken by the European Union or any representative organization thereof, which may affect the application of paragraph 3(b) of article 10 of the proposed Convention;

(c) Declaration: That the United States Department of the Treasury shall inform the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations as to the progress of all negotiations with and actions taken by the European Union or any representative organization thereof, which may affect the application of paragraph 3(b) of article 10 of the proposed Convention; and

(d) Declaration: That it is the Sense of the Senate that

(1) the effect of the Portuguese Substitute Gift and Inheritance Tax is to provide for nonreciprocal rates of tax between the two parties;

(2) such nonreciprocal treatment is a significant concession by the United States that should not be viewed as a precedent for future U.S. tax treaties, and, could in fact be a barrier to Senate advice and consent to ratification of future treaties;

(3) the Portuguese Government should take appropriate steps to insure that interest and dividend income beneficially owned by residents of the United States is not subject to higher effective rates of taxation by Portugal than the corresponding effective rates of taxation imposed by the United States on such income beneficially owned by residents of Portugal; and

(4) the United States should communicate this Sense of the Senate to the Portuguese Republic.

Treaty Doc. 104-4, Treaty Convention on Income Tax with Canada (Revised Protocol) (Exec. Rept. 104-9).

TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE-RECOMMENDED
RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT

Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of a Revised Protocol Amending the Convention between the United States and Canada with Respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital signed at Washington on September 26, 1980, as Amended by the Protocols signed on June 14, 1983 and March 28, 1984. The Revised Protocol was signed at Washington on March 17, 1995 (Treaty Doc. 104-4). The Senate's advice and consent is subject to the following declaration, which shall not be included in the instrument of ratification to be signed by the President:

That the United States Department of the Treasury shall inform the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations as to the progress of all negotiations with and actions taken by Canada that may affect the application of paragraph 3(d) of article XII of the Convention, as amended by article 7 of the proposed Protocol.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND
JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1144. A bill to reform and enhance the management of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FAIRCLOTH (for himself, Mr. DOLE, and Mr. ABRAHAM):

S. 1145. A bill to abolish the Department of Housing and Urban Development and provide for reducing Federal spending for housing and community development activities by consolidating and eliminating programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. MOYNIHAN):

S. 1146. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the excise tax treatment of draft cider; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. D'AMATO:

S. 1147. An original bill to extend and reauthorize the Defense Production Act of 1950, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. HOLLINGS:

S. 1148. A bill to revitalize the American economy and improve enforcement of the trade laws of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANTORUM:

S. 1149. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel BABS, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

S. 1150. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Marshall Plan and George Catlett Marshall; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 1151. A bill to establish a National Land and Resources Management Commission to review and make recommendations for reforming management of the public land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. MURKOWSKI):

S. 1152. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 with common sense amendments to strengthen the Act, enhance wildlife conservation and management, augment funding, and protect fishing, hunting, and trapping; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 1153. A bill to authorize research, development, and demonstration of hydrogen as an energy carrier, and a demonstration-commercialization project which produces hydrogen as an energy source produced from solid and complex waste for on-site use fuel cells, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 1154. A bill to authorize the construction of the Fort Peck Rural County Water Supply System, to authorize assistance to the Fort Peck Rural County Water District, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, for the planning, design, and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. HELMS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. NUNN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. MACK, Mr. INOUE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BUMPERS, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. 1155. A bill to extend and revise agricultural price support and related programs for certain commodities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BURNS: