

(c) and such other recommendations as may be necessary to achieve the efficient, cost-effective conduct of the responsibilities of the United Nations.

(c) CONTENTS OF REORGANIZATION PLAN.—It is the sense of the Congress that the reorganization plan required by subsection (b)(1) should—

(1) constitute a comprehensive statement of United States policy toward reform of the United Nations;

(2) set forth an agenda to implement the reforms set forth in the plan in a timely manner;

(3) include specific proposals to achieve—
(A) a substantial reduction in the number of agencies within the United Nations system, including proposals to consolidate, abolish, or restructure mechanisms for financing agencies of the United Nations that have a low priority;

(B) the identification and strengthening of the core agencies of the United Nations system that most directly serve the objectives of the United Nations set forth in the United Nations Charter;

(C) the increased cooperation, and the elimination of duplication, among United Nations agencies and programs.

(D) the consolidation of the United Nations technical cooperation activities between the United Nations Headquarters and the offices of the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, including the merger of the technical cooperation functions of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM);

(E) the consolidation of the United Nations emergency response mechanism by merging the emergency functions of relevant United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Program, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

(F) a substantial reduction in, or elimination of, the cost and number of international conferences sponsored by the United Nations;

(G) a significant strengthening of the administrative and management capabilities of the Secretary General of the United Nations, including a cessation of the practice of reserving top Secretariat posts for citizens of particular countries;

(H) a significant increase in the openness to the public of the budget decision-making procedures of the United Nations; and

(I) the establishment of a truly independent inspector general at the United Nations; and

(4) include proposals to coordinate and implement proposals for reform of the United Nations such as those proposals set forth in the communique of the 21st annual summit of the Heads of State and Government of the seven major industrialized nations and the President of the European Commission at Halifax, Nova Scotia, dated June 15-17, 1995.

M. Shalikhvili for reappointment as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 21, 1995, for purposes of conducting a full committee business meeting which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to consider pending calendar business.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to hold a business meeting during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 21, 1995, at 10 a.m. in SD226.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on African Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 21, 1995, at 2 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Finance of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 21, 1995, to conduct a hearing on the oversight of the Export Administration Act.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM, TECHNOLOGY AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology and Government Information of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to meet during a session of the Senate on Thursday, September 21, 1995, at 2 p.m., in Senate Dirksen room G50, on Ruby Ridge incident.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

ICC FUNDING AND RAILROAD MERGERS

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss some concerns I have about the flurry of recent proposed mergers by certain rail carriers.

The Commerce, State, Justice appropriations bill that we will consider later, terminates funding for the Inter-

state Commerce Commission at the end of year. Downsizing the Federal Government and eliminating Federal agencies is a goal I certainly support and I have supported elimination of the ICC, but as of today, reorganization of the ICC's statutory responsibilities has not been done. I understand the Commerce Committee is preparing to report out legislation to accomplish this reorganization and I support that effort as I believe we must not eliminate the Commission without reassigning their most important regulatory responsibilities.

In the meantime, the Commission continues its mission. One responsibility they have that I wish to comment on today is their review of proposed railroad mergers.

In the past several months we have seen two huge railroad combinations. The Burlington Northern/Sante Fe merger has been approved and appears to be moving toward completion. Now recently, the Union Pacific/Southern Pacific merger has been proposed. Little thought seems to have been given to the impact that both these mergers will have on the continued availability of effective and efficient railroad transportation. For example, what effect will these exceptionally large combinations have on consumers, shippers, and communities as well as on the surviving competing railroads? Consider the current critical rail transportation situation in the Midwest, as reported recently in the Journal of Commerce, where timely rail movement to market of grain, corn, and soybeans is seriously threatened. According to this article, which follows my remarks, because of a shortage of cars, freight rates are going up significantly.

What will be the impact of these megamergers on other railroads and their ability to provide a needed and competitive service? Take for example, a regional railroad such as Kansas City Southern Railroad Co., and I am sure there are others; will KCS survive as a reliable competitive line offering a needed service to thousands of shippers and hundreds of communities? If it and others like it do not survive as viable competitors, isn't it likely that the serious freight car shortage and escalating rate problems we're seeing, as reported by the Journal of Commerce, will become even more serious? And how about the consumers? Any such increased costs of necessity are passed on to them.

If all of this were not worrisome enough, the Union Pacific/Southern Pacific combination is being hurried through at a time when the only deliberative body charged with evaluating the ramifications of this sort of activity, the ICC, is threatened with legislative extinction. In the absence of the ICC, who is going to impartially assess the anticompetitive impact on the public of these mergers? Serious nationwide public policy issues are raised which must be addressed before the

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Thursday, September 21, 1995, at 9:30 a.m. in open session, to consider the nomination of Gen. John