

year as we mark the anniversary, Lebanese-Americans and the friends of Lebanon reflect on Lebanon's past and look ahead as it rebuilds for the future.

Six years after World War I, Lebanon was declared a republic, through still under French mandate. When France's World War II Vichy government was forced to surrender to Allied forces in July 1941, the Free French officially declared Lebanon independent on November 26. Elections took place during the summer of 1943, and by November 1943, when the new government took over, the French mandate was effectively terminated.

In the same year, Christian and Moslem leaders in Lebanon negotiated an agreement called the National Pact, which defined Lebanon as a distinct, sovereign country. The agreement was based on the principle of equitable religious representation in government and administration. The country's Maronite Christian, Sunni Moslem, Shia Moslem, and Druze populations were all represented in Lebanon's new parliament.

Lebanon's new system of government functioned effectively until 1975, when the country was thrust into a civil war. Tragic domestic upheaval persisted until 1989, the year that the Taif Agreement ended the civil war. The Taif Agreement was intended to lead to full restoration of Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

Of course, the Taif Agreement has not yet led to the fulfillment of these goals. However, it has been a stepping stone toward peace in Lebanon. Beirut is more tranquil and Lebanon's free-market economy continues to recover after the years of turmoil the civil war produced. Despite these successes, Lebanon continues to suffer the presence of foreign soldiers, further hindering the rebuilding of the country.

Peace within Lebanon depends greatly on peaceful relations with its neighbors. This peace cannot permanently take root in Lebanon until Lebanon is able to fully regain its national sovereignty and settle its differences with its neighbors in the region.

I believe it is important for the Lebanese people, as well as anyone who holds an interest in the region, to honor Lebanon's independence and to reflect on the spirit of the agreement on which modern Lebanon was founded. Lebanon has shown its great resilience. And, the Lebanese people, in all of their diversity, have shown their ability, in the past, to work together peacefully for a stronger Lebanon. We all hope that the future of Lebanon is bright, and that the people of Lebanon will come together to build on this land's rich heritage. ●

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. DOLE. Thank you, Mr. President.

ORDERS FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1995

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in adjournment until the hour of 2:30, p.m., Sunday, November 19, that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, no resolutions come over under the rule, the call of the calendar be dispensed with, and the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there then be the period for morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, let me indicate, for the information of all Senators, that we have presented the Democratic leader with a counteroffer on how we can end this impasse as far as the partial shutdown of the Government is concerned. I know that Senator DOMENICI, chairman of the Budget Committee, and Congressman KASICH, chairman of the House Budget Committee, will be calling Leon Panetta, the President's Chief of Staff—may have called him by now or will be calling soon.

Hopefully, they can meet with Mr. Panetta tomorrow, early afternoon, about 1 o'clock. So it seems to me, in the event something should occur, that we should be at least prepared to act on it in the U.S. Senate. Sunday sessions are extraordinary, but in this circumstance I think it is very appropriate.

So we will come in at 2:30 in the afternoon. I hope we can resolve this matter tomorrow. The House also would be available, I think within a few hours, I am told by the Speaker, to assemble enough House Members to take action in the event that it is necessary tomorrow.

So, if we can, I would say to my colleagues, whose staff may be listening, or just for their information, if there should be a rollcall vote, we will give everybody adequate time to be here. So I would not be concerned about that. If we should reach an agreement, I hope that we could do it on a voice vote because some of our Members would have to come long distances.

Of course, if we should reach agreement tomorrow, we will not be in ses-

sion next week. So we will convene tomorrow, hopefully to work out, or continue to work out, some agreement on the continuing resolution.

I yield the floor to the Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I express my appreciation to the majority leader. We started out early this morning and, indeed, worked through much of the day in very serious meetings, two of those meetings with the Speaker of the House. Throughout, the majority leader has expressed great compassion for those who have been furloughed.

Once again, both the leadership of the Senate and the House wish to confirm in one way or another that we are going to see that there will be no loss of pay, and we express our profound compassion for the stress and the strain brought upon families. Repeatedly in the most recent meeting of an hour ago with the Speaker, our distinguished leader said time and time again, he knows the great concern with these individuals and their families. So that will be done.

Of course, the proposition that we sent down to the President again preserves that 7-year balanced budget. That is, in my judgment, the keystone and the arch we hope to build to solve this between the executive and the legislative branches.

So, again, I express my appreciation to the leader.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, we do have a continuing resolution that has been passed by the House and the Senate which we will be pleased to send to the President if there is some indication the President will sign it. I think he has indicated to the contrary. So we will not, at least at this moment, send it to the President.

We did send, again for the information of all of our colleagues, three appropriations bills to the President today: Defense appropriations, a very important bill. If he would sign that bill, I am told by Senator STEVENS from Alaska, chairman of that subcommittee, 183,000 people could go back to work. That is a big, big bill. That is about a fourth of those presently furloughed.

So I hope the President will take a careful look at the defense appropriations bill. In addition, the White House has now received the legislative appropriations bill and the Treasury-Post Office appropriations bill. I understand that the President may sign those two pieces of legislation which, again, will take off some of the strain.

But I want to make the point, this is not just about people being furloughed. This is about a fundamental difference on how we achieve a balanced budget and whether we achieve it in 7 years, as the Republican Congress feels we can, or whether it is 8 years, 9 years, 10 years or maybe 7 years, if the President would agree.

So I hope we can continue to work. Most of us will be happy to meet later this evening if there is any opportunity to work out a successful agreement.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 2:30 P.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the

Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:53 p.m., adjourned until Sunday, November 19, 1995, at 2:30 p.m.