

VOTE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on S. 1745, the Department of Defense authorization bill, shall be brought to a close? The yeas and nays are required. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] is necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. BUMPERS] is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 170 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Abraham	Frist	Murkowski
Ashcroft	Gorton	Nickles
Bennett	Gramm	Pell
Bond	Grams	Pressler
Brown	Grassley	Roth
Burns	Gregg	Santorum
Campbell	Hatch	Shelby
Chafee	Hatfield	Simpson
Coats	Hutchison	Smith
Cochran	Inhofe	Snowe
Cohen	Jeffords	Specter
Coverdell	Kassebaum	Stevens
Craig	Kempthorne	Thomas
D'Amato	Kyl	Thompson
DeWine	Lott	Thurmond
Domenici	Mack	Warner
Faircloth	McCain	
Frahm	McConnell	

NAYS—46

Akaka	Ford	Lugar
Baucus	Glenn	Mikulski
Biden	Graham	Moseley-Braun
Bingaman	Harkin	Moynihan
Boxer	Hefflin	Murray
Bradley	Hollings	Nunn
Breaux	Inouye	Pryor
Bryan	Johnston	Reid
Byrd	Kennedy	Robb
Conrad	Kerrey	Rockefeller
Daschle	Kerry	Sarbanes
Dodd	Kohl	Simon
Dorgan	Lautenberg	Wellstone
Exon	Leahy	Wyden
Feingold	Levin	
Feinstein	Lieberman	

NOT VOTING—2

Bumpers Helms

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 46. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I call for order in the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will come to order.

The Senator from South Carolina is recognized.

TERRORIST ACT AGAINST UNITED STATES FORCES SERVING IN SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, on behalf of all Americans I wish to express my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of our servicemembers involved in yesterday's tragic terrorist attack in Saudi Arabia. While the situation is still developing, we know that 19 U.S. service personnel

were killed, 80 are hospitalized, of which 60 are in critical condition.

Our servicemembers in Saudi Arabia are stationed there to keep a steady and keen vigilance against the very threat to peace to which they were victims. Most of these U.S. servicemembers are performing daily missions and maintaining a deterrence against longstanding and well-known threats in the Persian Gulf.

This unfortunate act of cowardly terrorism is against all who have an interest in peace. Our British, French, and Saudi allies apparently were also targets of this senseless act.

The Senate is now deliberating on important legislation which affects the brave American servicemembers in Saudi Arabia, and all our forces worldwide. In doing this very important business, we should be mindful of what happened in Saudi Arabia last night. Last night's tragedy is another reminder that the absence of war does not mean that the world is at peace. Our soldiers, sailors, and airmen stand at the ready under the constant threat of violence. This is the world we live in today, in which the United States must continue to show leadership and determination.

Our job in the Senate now is to be unexceptionally serious about the Defense authorization bill which is now under consideration. The American people, our Government, and the U.S. Senate are duty-bound to provide the very best for those in our Armed Forces who knowingly stand in harm's way for us.

We can not fall short in supporting our men and women in uniform and their families, insuring the best possible benefits, and providing the best equipment for the dangerous missions in a still very dangerous world.

Mr. NUNN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COVERDELL). The Chair recognizes the Senator from Georgia.

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, I strongly endorse the remarks of Chairman THURMOND in the great sympathy that we express in this Chamber on both sides of the aisle to the service people involved in this tragedy in Saudi Arabia, and I certainly endorse President Clinton's strong statement of determination to find the perpetrators of this act and bring them to justice. I am confident that the Saudi Arabian Government has the same view.

This is a constant reminder of the kind of dangers and risks that our military personnel are under everywhere in the world. We are in a different era now. We are not in an era where we are threatened by massive annihilation from nuclear war, but we are in an unstable era where terrorism rears its ugly head in unexpected places. All of our military forces abroad and their families are under this kind of risk.

So as we join the families and express our great sympathy to those families, I think we ought to bear in mind that all of our military personnel all over the

world are basically risking their own lives to defend this great Nation.

I am informed there are 19 dead, 80 hospitalized, and 60 seriously wounded. I am also informed that they have not completed the identification of the remains and that the families have not yet been notified. Certainly that will be done in a timely fashion as quickly as they possibly can. The Air Force is working on that.

We sent medivac teams there with our aircraft. We sent all of the personnel that we can, and of course the President announced last night that we are sending FBI agents to help find the perpetrators of this terrible tragedy.

Mr. President, I am also informed that the families will begin being notified sometime around noon today. Certainly I know that there are a lot of anxious families in the Air Force community and military community all over the country.

So I join Senator THURMOND in expressing great sympathy to the families and absolute determination to prevent this kind of tragedy from recurring in every way that we possibly can.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, this is the fifth day of debate on S. 1745.

I think it is appropriate to give the Senate another update—a very brief one—this morning on where we have been, and more importantly where we are going on this important measure.

Thus far, we have debated this bill for almost 28 hours. We have disposed of 39 amendments. I will state, as I did yesterday, that we have not been keeping track of the exact amount of time consumed by consideration of the non-relevant amendments offered thus far to our bill. But I am able to state that the Senate has spent too much time talking about things that are not relevant to this defense bill, that are not in our jurisdiction, would not be in the jurisdiction of the conference, would require outside conferees if they are put on this bill, and would be very unlikely to receive conference approval and be signed into law.

So we are basically using our time to debate amendments that are not going anywhere in the long run, and we are doing that at the expense of completing this bill this week.

Yesterday, we were running along at a pretty good clip. We completed a number of defense amendments. We had a number of other people ready to present amendments and were working for a unanimous consent agreement to have a finite list of amendments in order. Then we had another legislative hurdle which was put in our way; the fourth nonrelevant amendment to our bill; this one on the matter of FBI files. This effectively shut us down for the rest of the day, a situation that I know disappointed the chairman and disappointed me, as well as other committee members.

The business before the Senate is the defense authorization bill. I hope that we can make this day the start of our quest to finish this bill this week and secure final passage without nonrelevant amendments.

Mr. President, there is a difference between a relevant amendment and a germane amendment. A germane amendment is very technical. It has to be a deletion to the bill, or a deletion of money.

There are all sorts of relevant amendments here, including amendments by the Intelligence Committee, most of which have been worked out, that are not germane. If we had invoked cloture a few minutes ago—and I voted against cloture—all of those intelligence amendments would be knocked out. Virtually all the amendments—not all but most of the amendments—that we have worked out that are going on this bill that are relevant but are not germane that we have already accepted but have not passed yesterday would have been knocked out. Any amendments relating to relevant ballistic missile defense—I see the Senator from Arizona on the floor—would be knocked out. The Nunn-Lugar-Domenici amendment which deals directly with the kind of terrorist threat that we have just witnessed in Saudi Arabia brings it home so that we can better protect our own cities. That is the subject of that amendment and certainly a matter of national security, but it would not have been germane to this bill, and that would have been knocked out.

So I know there is a real and a very sincere effort here to get to the bottom line and pass this bill. But in doing so, we cannot prevent our colleagues from offering relevant amendments that are important to our national security, whether we agree with them or not.

So there is a big difference between a relevant amendment and a germane amendment. Germaneness is required after cloture is invoked. I do not think it is time to invoke cloture. I think it would be a mistake to invoke cloture because we would then basically have not considered the serious amendments.

We have spent most of our time considering nonrelevant amendments on this bill. As important as the stalking amendment is, the one that is now pending, that one is not relevant to this bill because it is not in our jurisdiction. It is in the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee. It is going to require outside conferees when we go to conference, if it passes. I intend to vote for it, but we are going to have a hard time getting that through. It is going to slow up the bill. It is very likely going to precipitate a gun amendment then on this side of the aisle, which we all know is going to take time.

So I am just describing to our colleagues that their actions do have an effect on whether we can pass this bill or not.

If we do not stick to relevant amendments that have a connection to na-

tional security and that are in the jurisdiction of this committee and in the jurisdiction of the conference, then we are going to be on this bill all this week. I know the leader said that we are going to stay until we finish it. I applaud that. We will not finish it this week. If he is determined to finish it, it may require next week.

That is the way I see it now, unless we have cooperation from all of our colleagues and stick to amendments that are within the jurisdiction of this committee and this bill.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mrs. HUTCHISON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Texas.

TERRORIST ATTACK IN SAUDIA ARABIA

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I want to add my comments to those that have been made regarding the bombing in Saudi Arabia that have stunned our Nation as well as theirs.

It is horrifying to read that a bomb has gone off that leaves a 30-foot deep crater that is 80 feet wide. I am told that this was heard 8 miles away. Nineteen U.S. citizens lost their lives, 80 are injured, and a number of those very seriously. We could not start today's debate on the armed services bill without saying that our hearts go out to the families of those who are affected by this tragedy.

It goes without saying that on a very bipartisan basis Congress will do everything possible to support the President in making sure that we find out who is responsible for this and that there is swift and firm retaliation.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, this armed services authorization bill is so very important. This lays the groundwork for the strength of our defense and the support of our armed services.

So I agree with my colleague from South Carolina, the chairman of the committee, and the ranking member, Senator NUNN, that we must get on with the debate. I think if both sides will work together and determine what are relevant amendments, then hopefully the cloture vote will be in order tomorrow and we can finish this bill.

It is unnecessary for us to drag out this bill that will support our armed services, and most especially in light of what happened yesterday. I think it would be a tragedy if we did not finish this bill, and in fact we are going to finish this bill. We are not going to leave to go on a recess if this bill is not finished.

I hope everyone will be committed to that.

I would just take a slight issue with my colleague, Senator NUNN, talking about the stalking bill, because this is something that we have been trying to put forward for all the women and children of America.

It has been held up by Senator LAUTENBERG because he wants to add another amendment, and I think that the talking part of this legislation applies to military bases and military personnel and therefore is quite relevant. I hope that we can give this protection to the women and children that are in our military, and I hope that Senator LAUTENBERG will also take this opportunity to take his hold off the whole bill so that we could send it to the President before we go into recess.

I appeal to Senator LAUTENBERG to allow that to happen, and then I will certainly work with him to allow some vehicle for him to have an airing on the amendment that he wants to put forward. But there is no reason to hold up the ability for us to give all the protection in this country to the women and children who are victims of stalking, harassment, and threats when we are going on a recess. It does not make sense, and I hope Senator LAUTENBERG will hear our pleas, let this go, and let us work with him to get a vehicle for his amendment.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 4293

(Purpose: To authorize funding and multiyear contracting for the *Arleigh Burke* class destroyer program)

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I would like to start on a series of cleared amendments so that we can make progress on this bill, and I would like to start by offering, on behalf of Senator COHEN and Senator LOTT, an amendment that would make technical corrections to section 124 of the bill regarding *Arleigh Burke* class destroyers to make its intent more explicit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendment will be set aside.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON], for Mr. COHEN, for himself and Mr. LOTT, proposes and amendment numbered 4293.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

Strike out section 124 and insert in lieu thereof the following: