have abandoned these weapons for a better desire. The tests that were done resulted in perforation of the canister, but the experimenter said the hole was so small that there was very little leakage.

Mr. President, the whole country has seen on TV, as a result of what we saw in the gulf war, the effects of modern weapons on enemy vehicles, especially tanks. These targets have many things in common with nuclear waste transportation containers. They have a substantial thickness of steel with intervening layers of different materials just like a tank. The effects of these modern weapons astonished even military professionals who marveled at the energy release and the damage inflicted on armored vehicles designed to survive environments of more stress than the benign accident requirement required by the NRC.

Let me remind us all of the images from Desert Storm. We can recall in our mind's eye, Mr. President, the sight of a 100-ton-tank turret spinning wildly up, landing more than 100 yards from the targeted tank.

Mr. President, this is the kind of attack we must be prepared for because these shipments will be irresistible targets to determined terrorists. They may do more than fix the train tracks out in remote rural Arizona that causes the train to go out into the desert. They may fire one of these weapons. Terrorists do have access to these weapons. These weapons will do, to waste containers, the same damage they do to enemy vehicles, including tanks. They will perforate, rupture, disburse the contents and burn the waste in these containers. They will cause a massive radioactive incident.

We have not invested in the transportation planning and the preparations that are absolutely necessary for the safe transportation of these dangerous materials through our heartland. We have not addressed the spectrum of threats to its safe transportation and have not developed a transportation process that guards against these threats. We are not ready to meet the emergencies that could develop because of accident or terrorism.

Mr. President, this bill is unnecessary. It is going to be vetoed by the President. We are going to sustain the veto if it carries that far. It is absolutely unnecessary. We know the nuclear waste can be stored on-site where it is now located. We know this because of eminent scientists that have told us so from the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.

I close, Mr. President, by saying that, as from the newspaper this morning, ''This is too important a decision to be jammed through the latter part of a Congress on the strength of the industry's fabricated claim it faces an emergency.'' These, Mr. President, are not my words. They are the words of the editorial department from the Washington Post.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator from Nevada yield the floor?

Mr. REID. I yield the floor.

Mr. MURKOWSKI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, how much time is remaining on this side relative to the business of the Senate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska has 8 minutes.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I wonder if I could interrupt the majority leader at this time to determine whether he wants to propose a unanimous-consent agreement. I reserve the balance of my time and will seek recognition after that, Mr. President.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want to thank the distinguished Senator from Alaska for the good work he has been doing and for his cooperation in getting this unanimous-consent agreement. I did just have an opportunity to check it further with the Democratic leader. I think this is a fair agreement and will help move things along, not only on nuclear waste, but on the Department of Defense appropriations bill and hopefully even other issues.

NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT OF 1996

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent, Mr. President, that the motion to proceed to S. 1936 be withdrawn, that the Senate now proceed to its immediate consideration, without further action or debate, notwithstanding rule XXII.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1936) to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk to the nuclear waste bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to S. 1936, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act.

Trent Lott, Frank H. Murkowski, Larry E. Craig, Don Nickles, Strom Thurmond, Rick Santorum, Conrad R. Burns, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Sheila Frahm, Mitch McConnell, Jim Jeffords, Jim Inhofe, Rod Grams, Dirk Kempthorne, Christopher S. Bond, Fred Thompson.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote occur on Thursday, July 25, at a time to be determined by the majority leader, after notification of the Democratic leader, and that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I just reserve the right to object. I do not intend to object, but I ask the majority leader if he, in consultation with the minority leader sometime prior to that vote, would give us a reasonable period of time to talk before the cloture vote, whatever would be determined reasonable between the two leaders.

Mr. LOTT. Would the Senator repeat?

Mr. REID. The cloture vote will occur sometime on July 25. Can we have a few minutes to talk about that?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would rather not set the time right now.

Mr. REID. I did not want the time——

Mr. LOTT. It is a reasonable request we have some time before we go to a vote. We will consult with the Senator and the Democratic leader.

Mr. REID. I do not expect the time to be set now. I do not expect the leader to set the time. I am just asking if the majority leader and the minority leader would consider giving us a few minutes.

Mr. LOTT. We will.

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1894

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent to resume the consideration of the DOD appropriations bill at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, and the cloture vote scheduled to occur be postponed to occur at a time determined by the majority leader after notification of the Democratic leader.

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate has just begun consideration of the nuclear waste bill and will continue with that legislation next Thursday, July 25. The Senate will debate the Department of Defense appropriations bill tomorrow. It is the intention of the majority leader to reach an agreement that would significantly reduce the number of amendments to be offered to the DOD appropriations bill by 11 a.m., Wednesday. If agreement cannot be reached, then it would be my intent to have the cloture vote with respect to that bill, which would limit debate and amendments to 30 hours.

I want to say that we do have, however, cooperation now from both sides of the aisle, by the managers of the bill and Senators that have amendments that would like to have them considered. We are, again, talking with the