

Res. 84 are located in today's RECORD under "Submission of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.")

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

VISIT TO THE SENATE BY KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, it is my honor at this moment to present a distinguished guest to the U.S. Senate. His Majesty, the King of Jordan, King Hussein. I will suggest that we have a brief quorum call so that Senators can be notified to get here.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 4 p.m. today the Senate proceed to executive session to begin consideration of the NATO treaty, for opening statements only, and the time between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. be equally divided between Senators HELMS or BIDEN or their designees.

I further ask that at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday the Senate proceed to H.R. 2646 and that Senator ROTH be immediately recognized to offer an amendment.

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we are encouraging all Senators to return to the floor at 5 p.m. this afternoon for the introduction of a resolution. We do have a briefing at this time in S-407 with Mr. Butler, who is the head of the UNSCOM group. As soon as that is completed at 5, we have a resolution that we think all Senators would be interested in supporting and commenting on. We will introduce that resolution at that time.

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.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PROTOCOLS TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY OF 1949 ON ACCESSION OF POLAND, HUNGARY, AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report Executive Calendar No. 16.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Treaty Document 105-36. Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on Accession of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic.

Mr. HELMS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina is recognized.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, half of the 20th century ago, Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic were consigned to communist domination because of expedient and short-sighted policies of the West. Less than a decade ago, communism was overthrown and the desire for freedom in Eastern Europe prevailed over totalitarian government. Dictatorships fell to democracy like falling leaves in Autumn.

The new democracies in Eastern Europe, already nearing the state of permanent fixtures, have existed for less time than they did between World War I and World War II. Then, like now, their ultimate survival was taken for granted.

Yet, even now, in the late twentieth century, European nations are again torn asunder by ethnic hatreds and religious division. Reconstruction of the empires of the past century—a century as bloody as any known to man—still plays prominently in the minds of some nationalists and despots. Today, as in 1949, the defense of democracy will keep the United States out of European wars.

History may judge the collapse of communism in Europe to be largely a result of NATO's success in containing the massive, external threat posed by the Soviet Union. But the end of the Cold War does not mean the end of threats to freedom and liberty.

In the famous words of Thomas Jefferson: "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance". We must remain vigilant against the reemergence of old threats from the century past, even as we prepare for the new threats of the century to come. In the judgment of this Senator, an expanded NATO will do both.

Thus, we consider today one of the more important foreign policy matters to come before the Senate in some time; the protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic into NATO. In approving this resolution the Senate has the opportunity to remedy this historical injustice of Yalta, to secure democracy in Central Europe, and to advance the national security interests of the United States of America. I confess that because the ex-

ension of security guarantees is a very serious undertaking, and should be made only when it is in the national security interests of the United States.

Mr. President, the membership of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic in the NATO alliance does serve the national security interests of the United States. I want to say why.

The Foreign Relations Committee, of which I am chairman, and honored to be so, has given its utmost attention to this question. The Committee's examination of NATO expansion has taken place over the course of four years, and has included a dozen hearings and nearly fifty witnesses representing the full spectrum of views on this issue. We have published a hearing record alone that is 552 pages long.

I extend my thanks to the many Foreign Relations Committee members who have taken this task so seriously, including Senator BIDEN, LUGAR, GORDON SMITH, and, of course, the distinguished Senator from Nebraska, Mr. HAGEL. I also commend Senator BILL ROTH for his leadership in the 28-member Senate NATO Observer Group. In Fact, through the combined efforts of the Foreign Relations Committee and the NATO Observer Group, 41 Senators have had the opportunity to engage closely in the review of NATO enlargement over the course of the past year.

The Resolution of Ratification was carefully written to address major areas of concern and to clarify issues that arose during the Committee's consideration. It is the product of a robust debate with the Administration—a debate that from the very start was premised upon my desire to be supportive of NATO expansion, but always guided by the necessity to achieve that goal in a manner that fully secures the interests of the United States.

I insisted upon that, and I insist upon that to this day. And we have done that with the resolution which is now the pending business.

That resolution, Mr. President, by the way, was approved by the Foreign Relations Committee 16 to 2, and it includes seven declarations and four conditions. In general, let me run down the list.

In general, the resolution reiterates the vital national security interest of NATO membership for the United States;

It lays out the strategic rationale for the inclusion of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic in NATO;

It calls for continued U.S. leadership of NATO without interference from other institutions such as the United Nations;

It supports full and equal membership in NATO for the three new members;

It encourages the development of a constructive relationship between NATO and the Russian Federation if the Russian Federation remains committed to democratic reforms;

It emphasizes that Europeans also must work to advance political and economic stability in Europe;