

a clear signal to the House to move very rapidly on the bill. We will get it down to the President and hopefully get this important conference report signed in very short order.

I can just tell you, there will be a giant sigh of relief among the agriculture community from coast to coast and border to border as soon as this bill gets signed, because then we can get on to the business of getting our crop insurance policies renewed around the country and we can get on with the business of revamping, revising, and strengthening agricultural research throughout America. But the most important and most vital aspect of the bill in the immediate future is the Crop Insurance Program. Farmers will be assured right away that they will be able to continue their protection against disaster losses.

Mr. President, let me again compliment and thank my chairman, Senator LUGAR, first for his leadership on the ag research provisions of the bill. He has said many times that, entering the new century, we need to have a new approach, and new ways of doing our research in agriculture. He is absolutely right. I was happy and proud to support him in those efforts. It took quite a while to get the bill worked through the hearing processes, through negotiations in conference, getting all the issues worked out on research, but it was done, and we had good, bipartisan support.

I believe the chairman has fashioned an Ag research bill that is really going to help us move ahead in the next century in producing new kinds of crops, new products from and uses for crops, in biotechnology, in improving agricultural productivity and natural resource protection. So I believe we will see a whole new focus and revitalization of our agricultural research. It is long overdue, but this bill will move us in that direction.

I thank the chairman also for his leadership on crop insurance, in making sure that we addressed this need to provide that critical element of a safety net for farmers, because, as we all know, they need this crop insurance, both to cover disasters over which they have no control and also to make sure they have the collateral they need for obtaining financing for their farming operations. Farmers rely on crop insurance, and agricultural lenders rely on it.

So, this provision is going to be very, very meaningful to make sure that farmers, and we here in Congress, do not have to be worrying every single year how we will find funding to continue crop insurance—and whether in fact farmers will have crop insurance. That is going to be a great relief to our farming community all over America.

Finally, on the food stamp provisions, again, I thank the chairman for his great leadership in making sure we produced a sound bill and held together our coalition encompassing agricultural and nutrition matters.

I also thank all the staff who worked very hard for a long time, for well over a year now, to get us to this point: Randy Green, our staff director; and Dave Johnson, chief counsel; Ms. Terri Nintemann on the majority side; on the minority side, Dan Smith, Mark Halverson, Phil Schwab and Richard Bender. There are a number of other staff. These are our leaders. They did a great job of pulling this bill together, keeping us on course and making sure we got to conference and got it all wrapped up. We are very blessed with a very good and very capable staff. I thank them for all the long hours and hard work they put in.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, the ranking member, Senator HARKIN, was characteristically gracious and generous, and I appreciate his comments. I want to tell him how much I have appreciated working with him and with all of our colleagues on what I believe is a monumental advance for not only American agriculture, but for feeding the world in the next 50 years, as well as the assurance of our farmers immediately in crop insurance and humane measures with regard to nutrition programs.

I simply mention, Mr. President, that Dave Johnson and Terri Nintemann have been mentioned. Of course, our distinguished Randy Green, who does so much on the majority side in likewise guiding all of the committee staff efforts. But I also will mention Marcia Asquith, Beth Johnson, Andy Morton, Michael Knipe, Bob Sturm, Debbie Schwertner, Carol Dubard, Kate Wallem, Kathryn Boots, Chris Salisbury, Danny Spellacy, Terri Snow, Whitney Mueller, and Jennifer Cutshall, because this has been a 2-year effort on the part of all of these individuals and they have contributed highly.

I have consulted with the distinguished majority leader, TRENT LOTT, and with the distinguished ranking member, TOM HARKIN, and it will be our request that there be a final roll-call vote. I alert colleagues that that will be coming, hopefully soon.

I appreciate very much the leader working with us to make this time possible and this opportunity to debate. I mention specifically the importance of the contribution of Senator GRAMM, who is a member of our committee, who argued well a point of view that did not prevail but, at the same time, sharpened the focus of all of us on those things we believe are important in this legislation.

Finally, I mention Senator DOMENICI, who had only a very small speech but an important one with regard to caps and entitlements in the budget and overall considerations. We are mindful of what he had to say and grateful for his support ultimately of our effort.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GORTON). Is there further debate?

Mr. LUGAR. I ask for the yeas and nays on the conference report.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the conference report? If not, the question is on agreeing to the conference report. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

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

The result was announced—yeas 92, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 129 Leg.]

YEAS—92

| | | |
|-----------|------------|---------------|
| Abraham | Durbin | Lott |
| Akaka | Enzi | Lugar |
| Allard | Faircloth | Mack |
| Ashcroft | Feingold | McCain |
| Baucus | Feinstein | McConnell |
| Bennett | Ford | Mikulski |
| Biden | Frist | Moseley-Braun |
| Bingaman | Glenn | Moynihan |
| Bond | Gorton | Murkowski |
| Boxer | Graham | Murray |
| Breaux | Grams | Reed |
| Brownback | Grassley | Reid |
| Bryan | Hagel | Robb |
| Bumpers | Harkin | Roberts |
| Burns | Hatch | Rockefeller |
| Byrd | Hollings | Roth |
| Campbell | Hutchinson | Santorum |
| Chafee | Hutchison | Sarbanes |
| Cleland | Inouye | Shelby |
| Coats | Jeffords | Smith (OR) |
| Cochran | Johnson | Snowe |
| Collins | Kempthorne | Specter |
| Conrad | Kennedy | Stevens |
| Coverdell | Kerrey | Thomas |
| Craig | Kerry | Thompson |
| D'Amato | Kohl | Thurmond |
| Daschle | Landrieu | Torricelli |
| DeWine | Lautenberg | Warner |
| Dodd | Leahy | Wellstone |
| Domenici | Levin | Wyden |
| Dorgan | Lieberman | |

NAYS—8

| | | |
|-------|---------|------------|
| Gramm | Inhofe | Sessions |
| Gregg | Kyl | Smith (NH) |
| Helms | Nickles | |

The conference report was agreed to.

Mr. HARKIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, again I thank all Senators for their strong vote in support of this legislation. Hopefully now we can get it to the President, and get his signature, and again reassure farmers all over the country that they will be able to renew their crop insurance programs for next year.

INDIA'S NUCLEAR TESTS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I understand that the Senate is not on any legislation right now. I would like to take just a few minutes of the Senate's time to talk about the disturbing events that happened in South Asia yesterday.

Mr. President, to paraphrase a speech that President Roosevelt gave 57 years ago in the House Chamber, yesterday is a day that will live in infamy, for the Nation of India. At a time when world

tensions are being reduced, when the cold war is over, when nuclear arsenals are being reduced, at a time when we are on the threshold of signing a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, the Nation of India deliberately and provocatively, with total disregard for world opinion and total disregard for regional stability in South Asia, detonated three nuclear weapons. And to make matters even worse, they were detonated near the border with Pakistan.

These tests were conducted without advance warning to the international community. They clearly work against the goals of nonproliferation and international stability. Indian's Prime Minister's principal secretary said afterwards that with the test, "India has a proven capability for a weaponized nuclear program."

Mr. President, India's behavior is clearly unacceptable. These underground tests could well trigger a nuclear arms race in the region.

I believe that the United States should be prepared to exercise the full range and depth of sanctions available under law. For example, the Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act of 1994 requires the President to cut off almost all U.S. Government aid to India, bar American banks from making loans to the Government, stop exports of American products with military uses such as machine tools and computers, and, most importantly, oppose aid to India by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

An article that appeared this morning in the New York Times pointed out that, "India is the world's largest borrower from the World Bank, with more than \$44 billion in loans; it is expecting about \$3 billion in loans and credits this year."

Well, I think it is time for the United States to exercise its voice and vote in the World Bank, and let India know that no longer can it come and get that kind of money if all it is going to do is spend its money on developing and testing not only fission weapons but yesterday a thermonuclear weapon, a hydrogen bomb.

Further quoting from this article, Monday's tests "came as a complete shock, a bolt out of the blue" to the White House, one senior administration official said. "It's a fork in the road." "Will India and Pakistan be locked in a nuclear arms race? Will the Chinese resume nuclear testing now?"

What is also disturbing is that our intelligence agencies obviously did not pick up any signs that the tests were imminent and reported that activities at the test site appeared to be routine.

Let's see now. How much did we spend on our intelligence agencies last year? About thirty billion dollars? And they can't even tell us when one of the largest nations on Earth is going to explode nuclear weapons? You wonder what that \$30 billion is going for. I think a thorough review needs to be made of our intelligence operation.

Back to the point, Senator JOHN GLENN, our colleague, who is the au-

thor of the law, is quoted as saying, "Those sanctions are mandatory," and the only way to delay them is if the President tells Congress that their immediate imposition would harm national security. And that delay can only last 30 days. Congress can only remove the sanctions by passing a law or joint resolution.

"It would be hard to avoid the possibility of sanctions," a senior State Department official said. "There is no wiggle room in the law."

Further quoting our colleague, who is quoted again in the New York Times this morning, Senator GLENN called the tests "the triumph of fear over prudence, a monumental setback for efforts to halt the global spread of nuclear weapons."

Mr. President, the Nation of India is no longer the nation of Mohandas Gandhi, I am sorry to say. The Nation of India has embarked on a new and dangerous course in South Asia, one that I think has ominous foreboding for all of their neighbors in that area, and also for us here in the United States.

Of course, it is my fervent hope that India's neighbors will show restraint. It is my hope and my desire that Pakistan and China and other nations in that region will recognize the importance of caution despite this dangerous, inflammatory and provocative move by India. Again, they should not follow the lead of India but recognize the importance of restraining a nuclear arms race.

I believe that this Senate should also press for appropriate action by the international community. The international community should join with the United States in bringing to bear whatever sanctions it can, especially in the World Bank to cut off all loans to India.

Again, what India has done underscores the need for a nuclear test ban treaty. But now it becomes clear why, in August of 1996, after years of difficult negotiations, we finally got a final treaty supported by all countries for a comprehensive test ban, India refused to sign. Maybe now we know why.

The treaty was endorsed by a 158-to-3 margin at the United Nations. However, India walked out and said they weren't going to sign.

We cannot give up. We cannot let this action by the Government in India deter us from our goal of a comprehensive test ban.

I do not in any way mean my remarks today to implicate all of the wonderful people of India, many of whom I have counted as my friends, many of whom worked very hard on the issues of human rights, social justice, ending child labor. But I do wish by my remarks today to implicate and condemn in the strongest possible language permitted in this body the actions by the Government of India. This was its decision. This was its deliberate decision to conduct these tests in clear disregard for the opinion of the world.

So the Government of India bears a heavy responsibility for what follows. I

hope they do not, although my hopes seem to be feint in light of what the Government of India said yesterday, intend to weaponize their nuclear program. Not only have they tested these weapons, they seem to have sent a clear signal that they are going to incorporate these weapons in their military arsenal both for short-range, medium- and obviously perhaps even for long-range purposes.

At a time when India needs to invest in education, when it needs to invest in its infrastructure, at a time when India really needs to reach peaceful agreements with its neighbor, Pakistan, on the issue of Kashmir, which is still a volatile issue. At a time when China and India need to get together to discuss their roles in South Asia in the future, India has thumbed its nose at its neighbors. When the Government of Pakistan came to power under the Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, it reached out to India, to the previous government. Prime Minister Sharif held out the olive branch. He asked that talks be conducted, that they take steps to reduce the tensions in the region.

Those talks proceeded, tensions were reduced, and then elections were held in India and a new government was elected. The hopes and the dreams, the actions taken by the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Nawaz Sharif, and others in the region are now dashed and doomed if India doesn't make a quick U-turn in its policies. But India has already taken its actions, and its actions, I am afraid, will have very serious repercussions.

But, again, we cannot give up. I know that Pakistan several times called for restraint, to call for talks.

Well, I call on Pakistan and the other nations of the region not give up on their efforts to pursue a peaceful path, to again reach out to India to begin the long and arduous task of negotiations to reduce tensions and to reduce the nuclear arsenal in that area of the world.

I remain fearful not only because of Pakistan but because of China. What will China do now? Will China believe that it must now proceed to further test its nuclear weapons to show India that it is not going to be intimidated? No, Mr. President, what India did yesterday will live in infamy, and it is sad because India has made great progress in the last 50 years. I note at this time the President has recalled our ambassador to India. I compliment him for that action.

Quite frankly, I hope this sends another strong signal to India that it is not going to be business as usual with the U.S. Government because of what they did yesterday. It cannot be said too strongly that India took a terrible, terrible step yesterday and only India can undo it. I hope they will. But their words and their actions indicate to me they may and probably will not. I feel sorry for India. I feel sorry for the people of India. I feel sorry for the kids

that are working in the plants and the factories and the carpet looms who want a better future and a better education. I feel sorry for the millions of people in poverty who want a little bit better life in India but are now going to have to struggle because more and more of their money is going into their weapons and their nuclear arsenal. And I feel sorry for the people of Pakistan, too, again, who have made great strides in the last 50 years to build a nation, to build an infrastructure that will allow for a moderate Islamic State to exist in that area, and I feel sorry for the people of China. What is its Government going to do now?

Mr. President, we can only hope and pray that South Asia will now see this as a sign that they must get together and sign a comprehensive test ban treaty now, stop nuclear testing now, stop the arms race now; that India and China and Pakistan must get together and work out their problems through serious peaceful negotiations and not through the bluster of provocative actions taken by India yesterday to increase the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race.

Mr. President, I call on India to disavow what they did yesterday, to admit they made a mistake, to reach out to their neighbors in a serious attempt to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and to stop this madness once and for all.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 10 minutes in morning business.

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

THE BREAST CANCER STAMP

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I would like to ask everyone to take a moment to look at the most important stamp ever issued in our history, and that is the one we have the painting of here on the easel. I joined the U.S. Postal Service in unveiling this stamp in Chapel Hill, NC, yesterday, the day after Mother's Day, as my colleague, Senator FEINSTEIN, did the day before in Los Angeles, CA.

For the first time in U.S. history, the public will be able to play a more direct role in funding medical research and setting research priorities because of this stamp.

This may look like a regular first-class postage stamp, but it is not. It is a semi-postal stamp, the first of its kind ever issued in this country. It took an Act of Congress to create it, and we did just that. It was done to raise money for breast cancer research.

Incidentally, the United States is the only Nation around the world that has not issued semi-postal stamps before, but this stamp is different because part of the proceeds of this stamp will go directly to the NIH and the Department of Defense to pay for breast cancer research.

My colleague from California, DIANNE FEINSTEIN, introduced this legislation here in the Senate as Congressman VIC FAZIO did in the House of Representatives. While popular, the bill needed a vehicle to get it passed. I decided that if the Post Office could sell a Bugs Bunny stamp, they could sell a stamp to raise money for breast cancer research. I was able to add the proposal to an appropriations bill, and, along with the support of the majority of my colleagues here in the Senate and the House, the stamp now is born and in existence.

The Postal Service was not excited about doing this stamp, and they were concerned that other groups sponsoring other diseases would be pushing for a similar stamp. I find no problem with that. I just cosponsored a bill introduced by Senator SNOWE and Senator BURNS that would create a semi-postal stamp to raise money for prostate cancer research. I think this is a great way to let the public play a much larger role in helping fund medical research, and the effort should be encouraged. In fact, the Postal Service Board of Governors met today and selected an old friend and fellow North Carolinian, Bill Henderson, to serve as the next Postmaster General. Let me be the first to congratulate an old friend.

I have asked each member of the Postal Service Board to contribute an additional amount to this effort by turning over what would normally be collected for administrative costs to the cancer research fund. In other words, all of the gross money would go to cancer research. This is especially important in light of the fact that the Postal Rate Commission has just recommended that we raise the price of a first-class stamp by 1 cent.

If only 20 percent of first-class stamp buyers decide to buy this postal stamp—only 20 percent, one-fifth—we will raise \$120 million annually. That is the same amount of funding increase we fought for in last year's budget for the National Cancer Institute. The stamp will be sold for 40 cents when it goes on sale in August. The difference in price from 32 cents or 33 cents required to send a first-class letter, either the 7 cents or 8 cents, will go directly to the NIH and the Department of Defense for their breast cancer research studies.

If I could turn this into a "Home Shopping Channel" for a moment and address all the folks who may be watching: Please, I ask that they themselves buy and urge their friends to buy the stamp when it goes on sale this August. It is a wonderful gift, and when so giving it, when you make a gift, No. 1, you are sure the gift will be used, and you encourage the recipients of the gift to in turn buy the stamp themselves after the gift supply has been exhausted.

There may be some confusion because about a year ago the post office released a breast cancer awareness stamp. This was a nice gesture, but it

provided no money. This stamp will raise money for all the women and families afflicted by this dread disease. Let's prove the post office wrong and make the sale of this stamp a record-setting event.

I thank all my colleagues, and especially Senator FEINSTEIN, for their help in making this semi-postal stamp a reality. I urge you to join with the Postal Service, corporate sponsors, and breast cancer groups to plan events to launch the sale of this stamp completely around the country and in all the States. It has to be a success.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I suggested the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask to speak up to 3 minutes as in morning business.

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

THE U.S.-INDIAN RELATIONSHIP

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, Senator HARKIN from Iowa recently spoke on the floor about the terrible occurrence recently happening in India, the explosion of three nuclear devices, which has been roundly condemned around the world. It is very destabilizing in the Indian subcontinent and is going to trigger a set of automatic sanctions.

In the Foreign Relations Committee, at 2 p.m. tomorrow afternoon, we will be holding a hearing about the actions taken by the Indian Government, its consequences on the U.S.-Indian relationship, and its consequences throughout that subcontinent. I certainly invite all the Members of the U.S. Senate and others interested to watch these hearings and to follow those, because this is a significant event that has occurred. It has significant ramifications on U.S.-India relationships and is an action that is happening in one of the most volatile regions of the world.

I think we all advise and advocate strongly, for our allies and other friends of ours in the neighborhood, for there to be a calm, stable response to this and that there not be further testing to take place. We will explore these issues in the Foreign Relations Committee tomorrow at 2 o'clock.

I yield the floor.

HIGH-TECH WEEK

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate will be considering a series of bills that truly impact