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## Senate

(Legislative day of Tuesday, June 2, 1998)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by guest Chaplain, Reverend Shirley Caesar, Pastor of Mount Calvary Word of Faith Church, Raleigh, NC.

We are pleased to have you with us.

### PRAYER

Let us pray:

Father, You have declared in Your word that, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."—Psalms 33:12. So, Lord, we realize that You are the only Supreme and Sovereign God, and we thank You for the blessing of living in a nation that is predicated upon a strong, Godly heritage. May we ever be cognizant of the fact that it is Your grace and Your mercy that have blessed our Nation to become a symbol of freedom, prosperity, and justice.

We are admonished in the Book of Romans that, "the authorities that be are ordained of God."—Romans 13:1. Therefore, Lord, we thank You for this governing body of the United States of America, we thank You, Lord, the men and women You have chosen to help lead our Nation. Father, we pray and intercede for the Senators who have convened here today, seeking Your guidance and will for our country. We pray in the name of the Lord that You will release a spirit of harmony throughout this session. Grant them Godly wisdom, knowledge, understanding, discretion, and courage. Cause their wills to concede to Your will. Let Your vision become their vision and Your desires their desires. By doing so, Lord, we are assured that our Nation will continue to live out and fulfill the true meaning of its calling.

We ask these blessings in the Name of our Lord. Amen, and Amen.

Mr. HELMS addressed the Chair.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able senior Senator from North Carolina is recognized.

Mr. HELMS. I thank the Chair.

### THE GUEST CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, it was about four months ago that I called the Senate's distinguished chaplain and suggested that he might consider inviting Rev. Shirley Caesar of Raleigh, North Carolina, to serve as the U.S. Senate's guest chaplain on some mutually convenient occasion.

I recall Dr. Ogilvie's response—a friendly suggestion that I tell him about Pastor Caesar. I replied that I would do better than that—and I did, by sending Dr. Ogilvie a copy of a lengthy article published by the Washington Post on February 22.

In a moment, Mr. President, I shall ask unanimous consent that portions of that article be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

But before I do that, let me summarize the fascinating Christian witness of Rev. Shirley Caesar, pastor of Mount Calvary Word of Faith Church in my hometown of Raleigh, N.C.

The Washington Post described Pastor Caesar this way:

On weekdays, (Pastor) Caesar, with a record number of nine gospel Grammys—hits the road to share her voice with those who come to hear her music and witness her presence as a legendary performer on stages across America. But on Sundays she returns to a plain maple pulpit in a simple white-washed church—comes home, not far from where she was born, to her husband of 15 years, Bishop Harold Ivory Williams, and preaches, ministers to everyday problems, and hears the refrains.

Mr. President, I have selected several paragraphs from the Washington Post story of February 22, 1998, and shortly ask unanimous consent that this information be published in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

But before I make that formal request, let me extend my personal welcome to the Senate's remarkable guest chaplain for this day. I am proud of her and at the first opportunity, Dot Helms and I intend to worship one Sunday morning with Reverend Caesar.

Now, Mr. President, I make the formal unanimous consent request that I mentioned a minute or so ago.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

### EXCERPTS OF WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ABOUT REV. CAESAR

Small in stature and verging on 60, she is almost dwarfed by the pulpit. So she moves out, microphone in hand, her stylish pumps gleaming signals that the spirit is lifting this room of 400 people who pray, jump to their feet and sweat with their pastor.

She embraces a niece who has survived a bout with drugs.

"The things she used to do, she don't do no more," Caesar says. Sounds like the beginnings of a song to lift up. A black handkerchief wipes her brow.

"I want to be ready," she says. "I don't want Him to come here and find me getting ready," she says. She is ready to rise.

She says of her calling, "I don't want it to be said, I wonder where Shirley Caesar is, I wonder if she is still singing. I am. I believe that singing and preaching go together like ham and eggs. So I just praise God that I am still here."

Meanwhile, for 40 years, first with the famous Caravans, then as a solo performer, Caesar has been one of the most energetic and popular performers in the music

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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