

Mr. President, the distinguished Senator from Maryland, Senator SARBANES, recently warned those who think we can do without the IMF that they are "playing with fire." He's right.

They have decided, for short-term political reasons—some as small as their own fight over the Speaker's job—that they are willing to fiddle while the international economy burns. The IMF is not a perfect institution, Mr. President, but right now it is the only fire insurance we have got.

By delaying indefinitely the funding for the IMF, these gamblers are taking deadly risks with our own economy, an economy that has taken years of sacrifice to restore to health. They are squandering our ability to lead economically and politically in a time of international crisis in exchange for some short-term political gains.

It is time to cease this recklessness, Mr. President. It's time to provide the IMF with the funds it needs, and remove short-sighted bickering and self-serving calculations in the U.S. Congress from the list of threats to our own economy.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

##### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting three withdrawals and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:08 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it request the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 872. An act to establish rules governing product liability actions against raw materials and bulk component suppliers to medical device manufacturers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3506. An act to award a congressional gold medal to Gerald R. and Betty Ford.

H.R. 3982. An act to designate the Federal building located at 310 New Bern Avenue in Raleigh, North Carolina, as the "Terry Sanford Federal Building".

H.R. 4194. An act making appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 294. Concurrent resolution commending the Armed Forces for their ef-

forts, leadership, and success in providing equality of treatment and opportunity for their military and civilian personnel without regard to race, color, religion, or natural origin.

H. Con. Res. 305. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for a clinic to be conducted by the United States Luge Association.

The message further announced that the Houses agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4059) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of the Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4060) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. MCDADE, Mr. ROGERS, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. PARKER, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. FAZIO of California, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. PASTOR, and Mr. OBEY, as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

At 10:31 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4237. An act to amend the District of Columbia Convention Center and Sports Arena Authorization Act of 1995 to revise the revenues and activities covered under such Act, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3982. An act to designate the Federal building located at 310 New Bern Avenue in Raleigh, North Carolina, as the "Terry Sanford Federal Building"; to the Committee on Environmental and Public Works.

The following concurrent resolutions were read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 294. Concurrent resolution commending the Armed Forces for their efforts, leadership, and success in providing equality of treatment and opportunity for their military and civilian personnel without regard to race, color, religion, or natural origin; to the Committee on Armed Services.

H. Con. Res. 305. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for a clinic to be conducted by the United States Luge Association; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-6287. A communication from the Associate Managing Director for Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rules to Adopt Regulations for Automatic Vehicle Monitoring Systems" (Docket 93-61) received on July 29, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6288. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit of the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Conversion to the Euro" (RIN1545-AW34) received on July 29, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6289. A communication from the Director of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Kentucky Regulatory Program" (Docket KY-217-FOR) received on July 29, 1998; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-6290. A communication from the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Endowment's annual report for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-6291. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, certification of a proposed Technical Assistance Agreement for the export of defense services to the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (DTC-71-98); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6292. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additions to the Entity List: Russian Entities" (RIN0694-AB60) received on July 29, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6293. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exports to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro); Imposition of Foreign Policy Controls" (RIN0694-AB69) received on July 29, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6294. A communication from the Employee Benefits Manager, AgFirst Farm Credit Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the financial statements of the Bank's Retirement Plan and Employee Thrift Plan for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 442: A bill to establish a national policy against State and local government interference with interstate commerce on the Internet or interactive computer services, and to exercise Congressional jurisdiction over interstate commerce by establishing a moratorium on the imposition of exactions that would interfere with the free flow of commerce via the Internet, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-276).

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2375: An original bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1997, to strengthen prohibitions on international bribery and other corrupt practices, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-277).

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2279: A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize the programs of the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-278).

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations: Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 1999" (Rept. No. 105-279).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with amendments:

H.R. 3528: A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the use of alternative dispute resolution processes in United States district courts, and for other purposes.

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 193: A resolution designating December 13, 1998, as "National Children's Memorial Day".

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1031: A bill to protect Federal law enforcement officers who intervene in certain situations to protect life or prevent bodily injury.

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 51: A joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the Potomac Highlands Airport Authority Compact entered into between the States of Maryland and West Virginia.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

Rebecca M. Blank, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that she be confirmed, subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. HATCH, from Committee on the Judiciary:

Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Nora M. Manella, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Jeanne E. Scott, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois.

David R. Herndon, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

Carl J. Barbier, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Gerald Bruce Lee, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Patricia A. Seitz, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Howard Hikaru Tagomori, of Hawaii, to be United States Marshal for the District of Hawaii for the term of four years.

Paul M. Warner, of Utah, to be United States Attorney for the District of Utah for the term of four years.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. COVERDELL, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 2371. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce individual capital gains tax rates and to provide tax incentives for farmers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 2372. A bill to provide for a pilot loan guarantee program to address Year 2000 problems of small business concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2373. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the use of alternative dispute resolution processes in United States district courts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SARBANES:

S. 2374. A bill to provide additional funding for repair of the Korean War Veterans Memorial; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. D'AMATO:

S. 2375. An original bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, to strengthen prohibitions on international bribery and other corrupt practices, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 2376. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for land sales for conservation purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. D'AMATO, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 2377. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to limit the concentration of sulfur in gasoline used in motor vehicles; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 2378. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the amount of payment under the Medicare program for pap smear laboratory tests; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. 2379. A bill to establish a program to establish and sustain viable rural and remote communities; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ASHCROFT:

S. 2380. A bill to require the written consent of a parent of an unemancipated minor

prior to the provision of contraceptive drugs or devices to such a minor, or the referral of such minor for abortion services, under any Federally funded program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MACK (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2381. A bill to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 2382. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow certain community-based organizations and health care providers to determine that a child is pre-emptively eligible for medical assistance under a State plan under that title; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, and Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN):

S. 2383. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to reform the provisions relating to child labor; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. ASHCROFT (for himself and Mr. FAIRCLOTH):

S. 2384. A bill entitled "Year 2000 Enhance Cooperation Solution"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 2385. A bill to establish the San Rafael Swell National Heritage Area and the San Rafael National Conservation Area in the State of Utah, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FAIRCLOTH (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2386. A bill to provide that a charitable contribution deduction shall be allowed for that portion of the cost breast cancer research stamp which is in excess of the cost of a regular first-class stamp; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. 2387. A bill to confer and confirm Presidential authority to use force abroad, to set forth procedures governing the exercise of that authority, and thereby to facilitate cooperation between the President and Congress in decisions concerning the use or deployment of United States Armed Forces abroad in situations of actual or potential hostilities; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DORGAN:

S. 2388. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exclusion for gain from the sale of farmland which is similar to the exclusion from gain on the sale of a principal residence; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WELLSTONE:

S. 2389. A bill to strengthen the rights of workers to associate, organize and strike, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. BROWBACK (for himself and Mr. HELMS):

S. 2390. A bill to permit ships built in foreign countries to engage in coastwise in the transport of certain products; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DASCHLE:

S. 2391. A bill to authorize and direct the Secretary of Commerce to initiate an investigation under section 702 of the Tariff Act of 1930 of methyl tertiary butyl ether imported from Saudi Arabia; to the Committee on Finance.