

Senator BYRD said: The recess appointment power should not be used simply to avoid controversy or to circumvent the constitutional power and responsibility of the Senate. In several cases, Reagan's recess appointments avoided serious and probing debate by the Senate on controversial issues. There is no evidence that the needs of government required any of these appointments to be made as recess appointments.

Then Senator BYRD went on to give the history, as he always does in his very eloquent style, as to how the Constitution does provide for emergencies, for such things as appointments back in the 1800s when people were traveling and unable to get here or when something strategic is pending. In the case of James Hormel, certainly there is not anything strategic pending.

For that reason, I am serving official notice today that I am going to do the same thing Senator BYRD did back in 1985: I am putting holds on every single Presidential nomination.

In the case of James Hormel, it is a little confusing to a lot of people as to why he became controversial. Yes, he is gay. That is not the reason for people opposing him. It is the fact that he is a gay activist who puts his agenda ahead of the agenda of America.

I can recall when he made the statement when first nominated by the President: I wish the President had nominated me to be Ambassador to Norway, because if they have something on the ballot—same-sex marriages or something like that—I might be able to influence it.

That, to me, demonstrated very clearly that he wanted to use this position to advance his own agenda and not the agenda of America.

I hasten to say, I would have the same feelings about any other appointment on any other issue. If David Duke were appointed and came to the conclusion he was going to use his militia interests as his motivation and his agenda more than America's agenda, I certainly would oppose that nomination in the same way. Notice is hereby served.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 having arrived, the Senate stands in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, at 12:29 p.m., the Senate recessed until 2:15 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. SESSIONS).

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 2:15 having arrived, the Senator from Hawaii is recognized for 5 minutes; and under the previous order, at the hour of 2:20, the Senator from Alaska is to be recognized.

Mr. GREGG addressed the Chair.

Mr. INOUE. I yield my time to my friend from New Hampshire.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

AMENDMENT NO. 548, AS MODIFIED

Mr. GREGG. I send a modification to the desk to amendment No. 548.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is modified.

The amendment, as modified, is as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following new section:

SEC. . PROHIBITION ON USE OF REFUGEE RELIEF FUNDS FOR LONG-TERM REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OR RECONSTRUCTION IN SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE.

None of the funds made available in the 1999 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act (Public Law 106-31) may be made available to implement a long-term, regional program of development or reconstruction in Southeastern Europe except pursuant to specific statutory authorization enacted on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. GREGG. I yield the floor.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent that Commander Tom Bailey, a fellow serving on the staff of Senator COCHRAN, be allowed privileges of the floor during the debate on this bill.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 575

(Purpose: To authorize \$4,000,000 of Army research, development, test, and evaluation funds (in PE 60481A) to be used for the Advanced Integrated Helmet System Program)

Mr. STEVENS. I send an amendment to the desk for Senator GORTON and ask it be numbered and qualified.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. STEVENS], for Mr. GORTON, proposes an amendment numbered 575.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 107, between lines 12 and 13, insert the following:

SEC. 8109. Of the funds appropriated in the title IV under the heading "RESEARCH, DE-

VELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION, ARMY", \$4,000,000 shall be made available for the Advanced Integrated Helmet System Program.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is laid aside.

AMENDMENT NO. 576

Mr. STEVENS. I send an amendment to the desk for the distinguished majority leader and ask it be numbered and qualified.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. STEVENS], for Mr. LOTT, proposes an amendment numbered 576.

The amendment is as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert:

Office of Net Assessment in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, jointly with the United States Pacific Command, shall submit a report to Congress no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act which addresses the following issues:

1. A review and evaluation of the operational planning and other preparations of the U.S. Defense Department, including but not limited to the U.S. Pacific Command, to implement the relevant sections of the Taiwan Relations Act since its enactment in 1979.

2. A review and evaluation of all gaps in relevant knowledge about the current and future military balance between Taiwan and mainland China, including but not limited to Chinese open source writings.

3. A set of recommendations, based on these reviews and evaluations, concerning further research and analysis that the Office of Net Assessment and the Pacific Command believe to be necessary and desirable to be performed by the National Defense University and other defense research centers.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is laid aside.

AMENDMENT NO. 577

Mr. STEVENS. I send an amendment to the desk for the Senator from New Mexico, Mr. DOMENICI, and ask that it be qualified.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. STEVENS], for Mr. DOMENICI, proposes an amendment numbered 577.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 106, line 4, strike "The Communications Act" and insert "(a) The Communications Act of 1934".

On page 107, between lines 4 and 5, insert the following:

(b)(1) Not later than 15 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Federal Communications Commission shall each submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report which shall—
(A) set forth the anticipated schedule (including specific dates) for—

(i) preparing and conducting the competitive bidding process required by subsection (a); and

(ii) depositing the receipts of the competitive bidding process;

(B) set forth each significant milestone in the rulemaking process with respect to the competitive bidding process;