

It appears I will still have to file cloture on Tuesday. I want to do whatever is necessary to try to complete that bill by Friday of next week. It may not be possible, but if it means staying on that bill during the day and night, we will look at that option, and I will consult with the leadership on the other side for the need to do that if it appears it is necessary.

Mr. REID. I also say to my friend, we keep hearing that 11 appropriations bills have not been passed. That is true. But the fact is, we have completed action on more than the three bills. Just because we did one last night does not mean we have only done three.

Mr. LOTT. Yes.

Mr. REID. I say to my friend, the majority leader, while we are working on PNTR, I would hope that there is a concerted effort to get more money to solve the funding cap. We could work out a lot of these in conference. That is what we are waiting to do.

Mr. LOTT. Right.

Mr. REID. I think the sooner we do that the better off we will be.

Mr. LOTT. As the Senator knows, we are hoping that early next week the House will take up the legislative appropriations bill coupled with the Treasury-Postal Department appropriations bill. It would be done in such a way that both sides find it acceptable. It is my understanding that the administration would sign it. So that would move two bills to the President. We hope to have that acted on in the Senate next week, hopefully by Thursday. So if that is done, that would put us then at 10 appropriations bills having been acted on by the Senate, leaving only three.

I will be working, again, as I said, with the chairman about which we would do next week, the HUD bill or CJS. And I don't know whether the HUD bill has come out of committee yet. So we are still working on that. We are still committed to getting through these appropriations bills, hopefully getting them all done through the Congress, going into conference, and hopefully down to the President before the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a couple more housekeeping matters.

I say to the majority leader, are we going to have any votes Monday?

Mr. LOTT. It is possible that we would have votes on Monday. But if we are making good progress—like this week, we didn't force votes on I guess it was Tuesday or Wednesday because we had debate, and we were able to get on the bill. We were able to get amendments done. But I would say this: If there are votes Monday, it will depend on—we were not able to get work done on amendments to the point where they could get a vote today. Votes will not occur before 5:30 or 6 o'clock. We will consult on the time. But it could be that the next votes will not occur until Tuesday morning. It just depends

on whether we can get one racked up and in order.

Mr. REID. Finally, Mr. President, I say through you to the majority leader, I also hope, in the limited things that you have to do next week, that you would give some consideration to the problems that Senator LEVIN and Senator HARKIN have regarding judges. Both of these Senators have talked to Senator DASCHLE and me and are very concerned.

I know they have been in conversation with you and Senator HATCH. We hope that there can be some progress made on the requests of these two fine Senators.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I just spent the last few minutes with Senator LEVIN. I understand his interest. The problem they are both interested in is in the Judiciary Committee. We will be working to see if anything could be done. It will be very hard at this point. I understand their interest. I know there is no desire to block the action of the Senate at this time. It is going to be difficult, but I certainly am going to listen to them and see what might be done. If we could keep working on it, maybe something can be worked out.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the majority leader's request?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. I further ask unanimous consent that at 1 p.m. on Monday, Senator THOMPSON be recognized to offer an amendment to H.R. 4444, and that Senator HELMS be recognized at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday to offer an amendment to the same.

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I really had hoped that we could find a way to consider Senator THOMPSON'S amendment, or bill, as a separate issue. I worked throughout the month of July to do that. I even tried as late as yesterday to have it considered separately. But I was told that there would be an objection to taking it up. Then we would have to file cloture under a motion to proceed, and it would take days. If it took all that time, it actually could have displaced the China PNTR bill.

So I think that Senator THOMPSON has no option but to offer his amendment on China PNTR. It is a very serious matter. Chinese nuclear weapon proliferation is something about which we have to be concerned. And I am convinced it continues to this day. We need a way to monitor it. And there should be a way to impose sanctions if that continues.

So that issue will come up on this bill and we will have to see how it works out. I think this is going to be the toughest issue we have to face on China PNTR. There is opposition by some for other reasons, but this is one that will test the will of the Senate, I believe, in getting the work completed.

Mr. REID. Mr. Leader, having looked at the votes on this issue, the Thomp-

son amendment, I think it would be in everyone's interest if this could be worked out so there is a separate vote on this issue, separate from this legislation. Senator THOMPSON should know that there are a number of people who have a basic support for his legislation but would vote against it because it is on this legislation. He has worked so hard on this, so I hope he can have a separate up-or-down vote on the merits, not complicated by the PNTR issue.

Mr. LOTT. I have spent a lot of time trying to find a way to do that.

PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, at 12 noon the Senate will resume debate on the China trade bill, with a Byrd amendment to be debated until 1 p.m. At 1 p.m., Senator THOMPSON will be recognized to offer his amendment regarding the China nonproliferation issue. Debate on that amendment is expected to consume most of the day; however, other amendments may be offered during Monday's session.

Those Senators who have amendments are encouraged to work with the bill managers on a time to offer the amendments. Also, it is hoped that the Senate can complete action on this important trade legislation by early next week, or certainly by the end of next week. Then we will be able to move on to other issues.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2000

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:43 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 11, 2000, at 12 noon.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 8, 2000:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

LARRY L. LEVITAN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

STEVE H. NICKLES, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

ROBERT M. TOBIAS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

KAREN HASTIE WILLIAMS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS.

GEORGE L. FARR, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

CHARLES L. KOLBE, OF IOWA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS.

NANCY KILLEFER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

DELMOND J.H. WON, OF HAWAII, TO BE A FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2002.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ROSS L. WILSON, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND