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Senate

The Senate met at 10:01 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. BYRD].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, the Senate will now convene notwithstanding the provisions of Senate Resolution No. 6 adopted January 3 in this year of our Lord, 2001.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, source of strength and hope in the darkest hours of our Nation's history, we praise You for the consistency and constancy of Your presence with us to help us confront and battle the forces of evil manifested in infamous, illusive, cowardly acts of terrorism. We turn to You with hearts filled with dismay, anger, and grief over the terrorist attacks on the World Trade buildings in New York City and the Pentagon here in Washington. We pray for the thousands of victims who lost their lives as a result of these violent acts against our Nation. We intercede for their loved ones; comfort them and give them courage. In particular, we pray for the loved ones of the fire fighters and police who died seeking to help others. Quiet our turbulent hearts. Remind us of how You have been with us in trouble and tragedies of the past and have given us victory over tyranny. Bless the women and men of this Senate today as they join with President Bush in decisive action. Guide them as they seek justice against the perpetrators of yesterday's evil destruction and seek to devise a long-range solution to the insidious problem of terrorism. Thank You in advance for the courageous leadership You will provide through this Senate. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ROBERT C. BYRD led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask unanimous consent that the Journal of proceedings be approved to date; that the morning hour be deemed expired; that the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 to 2 p.m. for the weekly party conferences.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the requests are granted.

THANKING THE CHAPLAIN

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I thank the Chaplain for his prayer. I know he speaks for us all.

THANKING THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I also thank the distinguished Republican leader for the cooperation and leadership that he showed yesterday as we made decisions throughout the day with regard to the schedule.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DASCHLE. For the interest of all Senators, there will be a debate on the resolution which I am about to propose on behalf of both leaders. I might say this is also a resolution verbatim that will be offered in the House of Representatives; the same resolution will be offered simultaneously in both the House and the Senate this morning. We will break for party conferences at 12:30. We will not break, but there will be a classified briefing at 2 o'clock this afternoon for all Senators. We will continue to have an opportunity for Senators to be heard on the resolution throughout the day. And at a time upon which we will agree later, there

will be a vote on the resolution sometime this afternoon. It is my hope and expectation that there will also be a prayer service tonight. The time will be announced at a later time today subject to further discussions with the Speaker and, of course, the Republican leader.

I would also ask, Mr. President, to accommodate schedules of certain Senators, that after the resolution is proposed and the four leaders have been recognized for their statements, the Senators from New York and the Senators from Virginia be given first recognition, and following the statements made by those Senators, that Senators be recognized on an alternatinh basis throughout the day.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection? Hearing no objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I just want to say also—and I will have more to say about the resolution in a moment—how much I appreciate the work yesterday that was totally nonpartisan, totally cooperative from the leadership on the Democratic side of the aisle and on this side of the aisle and with the House of Representatives. That was the right thing to do. It was done. Senator DASCHLE was there. He made decisions that were appropriate after consultation—and some of them were tough—that even sometimes had to be modified later because events kept changing. I express my appreciation to him for that.

Also, this resolution today is bipartisan and bicameral; the same resolution will be considered in the House of Representatives. It is a good resolution. I believe it is strong. It is important that the American people and the

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



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world know that is the way we are proceeding. I thank Senator DASCHLE for his cooperation.

TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will state the resolution.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows.

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 22) expressing the sense of the Senate and the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001:

Whereas on September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked and destroyed four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, and a third into the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C.;

Whereas thousands of innocent Americans were killed and injured as a result of these attacks, including the passengers and crew of the four aircraft, workers in the World Trade Center and in the Pentagon, rescue workers, and bystanders;

Whereas these attacks destroyed both towers of the World Trade Center, as well as adjacent buildings, and seriously damaged the Pentagon; and

Whereas these attacks were by far the deadliest terrorist attacks ever launched against the United States, and, by targeting symbols of American strength and success, clearly were intended to intimidate our Nation and weaken its resolve: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress—

(1) condemns in the strongest possible terms the terrorists who planned and carried out the September 11, 2001, attacks against the United States, as well as their sponsors;

(2) extends its deepest condolences to the victims of these heinous and cowardly attacks, as well as to their families, friends, and loved ones;

(3) is certain that the people of the United States will stand united as our Nation begins the process of recovering and rebuilding in the aftermath of these tragic acts;

(4) commends the heroic actions of the rescue workers, volunteers, and State and local officials who responded to these tragic events with courage, determination, and skill;

(5) declares that these premeditated attacks struck not only at the people of America, but also at the symbols and structures of our economic and military strength, and that the United States is entitled to respond under international law;

(6) thanks those foreign leaders and individuals who have expressed solidarity with the United States in the aftermath of the attacks, and asks them to continue to stand with the United States in the war against international terrorism;

(7) commits to support increased resources in the war to eradicate terrorism;

(8) supports the determination of the President, in close consultation with Congress, to bring to justice and punish the perpetrators of these attacks as well as their sponsors; and

(9) declares that September 12, 2001, shall be a National Day of Unity and Mourning, and that when Congress adjourns today, it stands adjourned out of respect to the victims of the terrorist attacks.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution? Hearing no objection, the resolution is before the Senate.

The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, it is with pain, sorrow, anger, and resolve that I stand before this Senate, a symbol for 212 years of the strength of our democracy, and say that America will emerge from this tragedy, as we have emerged from all adversity, united and strong.

The America in which we awoke today is far different from the one in which we awoke yesterday. This morning, as our rescue workers and medical personnel continue their heroic work, we begin to truly understand the enormity of what happened.

My heart aches for the people of New York, our men and women serving at the Pentagon, the passengers and crew of the four hijacked aircraft, and for their families and friends. These attacks were an assault on our people and on our freedom. They aimed at the heart of the American community and the symbols and structures of our economic and military strength.

As an American, as an elected representative, I am outraged. As a husband and a father, I am pained beyond words. Last night we sent the message to the world that, even in the face of such cowardly and heinous acts, the doors of democracy will not close. This joint resolution we laid down today condemns yesterday's attacks, expresses our sympathy for the victims, and our support for the President as our Commander in Chief.

The world should know that the Members of both parties in both Houses stand united. The full resources of our Government will be brought to bear in aiding the search and rescue and in hunting down those responsible and those who may have aided or harbored them.

Nothing—nothing—can replace the losses that have been suffered. I know there is only the smallest measure of inspiration that can be taken from this devastation. But there is a passage in the Bible from Isaiah that I think speaks to all of us at times such as this:

The bricks have fallen down, but we will rebuild with dressed stone; the fig trees have been felled, but we will replace them with cedars.

That is what we will do. We will rebuild and we will recover. The people of America will stand strong together because the people of America have always stood together. And those of us privileged to serve this great Nation will stand with you.

God bless the people of America.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, any expression of sympathy for the suffering today is too weak. Every expression of horror at this outrage is too mild. But we must confront these acts and find a way to come together and make sure

that this kind of heinous, vicious action will not happen again in America. This premediated action against innocent men and women and children and their families, at the symbols of our country—our economic strength, our military strength, and most importantly, our freedoms—is unimaginable.

There's no way to understand it, to explain it, to defend it. Americans just don't think that way. That makes it hard for us to comprehend this very difficult moment and to do what's necessary to deal with terrorism and stop it in the future.

Our prayers are going out to the victims and their families, to those who are suffering in so many ways in New York, in Virginia, and in Pennsylvania—in all of America. We have such a debt of appreciation to pay to those who have struggled mightily with these catastrophic events at the Pentagon and at the World Trade Center and in our cities and states—the volunteers, those who gave their lives trying to deal with this terrible moment. To our allies and to those around the world who see this not just as a strike at America, but at freedom and democracy all over the world, and to those who already have extended hands of cooperation, understanding, and support, we appreciate it on behalf of the American people.

Now, Mr. President, it's so important that we show that even these terrible acts cannot stop America from going forward. We must get on with important work. But it is important also to make it clear that this is not business as usual. We're going ahead with our responsibilities. But we are going to act now, tomorrow, and in the weeks and months ahead to deal with those people who have taken these actions and with those who have supported them.

We will take whatever action is necessary in the Congress, working with the administration, working with the American team to stop this kind of terrorism. Whatever we call it, we must put ourselves in a war footing. We must make up our minds we're going to fight this scourge of the world. We will. We have come together.

There are moments in history when in the past the people of this country have set aside conflicts and prejudices and passions and have come together. We'll do it now. We've already done it. But we must continue to do so, regardless of region, religion, party, philosophy, or anything else.

There's much to do. We've got to find out how this happened. Congress has a right and a responsibility to learn what has happened here. We must find out who did it. And we must be prepared to take actions and fight terrorist attacks in the future.

This is not a time for timidity. This is not a time for pontification. Yes, we need to be sure of our actions. We need to be committed and determined. We need to be bold.

Here in the Congress I hope we will think about how we most effectively