

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected. The point of order is sustained and the amendment falls.

Mr. SPECTER. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. I know the hour is 12:30 and we will recess for the weekly caucuses. I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Michigan, Mr. LEVIN, be recognized to speak for up to 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Michigan.

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, this morning's newspapers brought the welcome news that the administration is finally waking up to the need to seek greater international support for and participation in our stabilization and reconstruction efforts in Iraq by seeking a new U.N. Security Council resolution. There has been a tragically long overdue recognition of the importance of doing so.

While this welcome news was attributed to an unnamed administration spokesman, hopefully some named spokesman will soon confirm it. The delay in arriving at this new approach, along with too much lone-ranger, bring-them-on rhetoric, will make the effort to internationalize the situation in Iraq more difficult and perhaps more costly in terms of the conditions exacted by the international community for its participation.

The word games that have been played by administration officials who have stated that they would "welcome" the participation of troops of other nations but refused to request that participation have also not been helpful.

While the need to internationalize this effort and obtain a U.N. mandate has been apparent to many of us from the beginning, the recent report of the Congressional Budget Office, requested by Senator BYRD, concerning the difficulty of sustaining a large U.S. military force in Iraq reinforces the need to reach out to the U.N. for support in this effort. There will not and should not be any need to compromise with respect to command and control of U.S. troops. There is ample precedent for the nation that provides the bulk of military forces to provide the senior military commander and for the senior military commander to exercise overall command of all the troops participating in a U.N.-mandated mission.

A recent example of that approach was the case of East Timor, where Australia led a coalition of the willing pursuant to a U.N. resolution and provided

the senior military commander for the operation. Once circumstances permitted it, the Australians turned over control to a U.N. blue helmeted peace-keeping force. The first gulf war was an earlier example where one nation, the United States, led a coalition of the willing with U.N. sanction. There will, however, be a need for compromise with respect to the control of civilian reconstruction and political development of Iraq. We should be willing to agree to a reasonable sharing of decisionmaking with respect to the physical and political reconstruction of Iraq. If we are willing to do so, Germany and Russia will proudly go along and France would then have little choice, I believe, but to go along as well.

Statements by administration officials, when we went to the U.N. before the war, which denigrated the importance of U.N. support and the work of U.N. inspectors, were counter-productive to acquiring U.N. backing at that time. We must avoid a repetition of that attitude. Given the pressures that have been brought to bear that were necessary to get the administration to seek support from the international community, I am afraid it will be necessary to keep the pressure on the administration to make the appropriate compromises to work out a new U.N. resolution.

Yesterday, three more U.S. soldiers lost their lives in Iraq, two due to hostile action and one in an accident. While internationalizing the effort in Iraq will not prevent all loss of life in the future, it should help to reduce the risks and ease the burdens on U.S. forces and will help convince Iraqis of international backing and support for our military presence there, and hopefully will increase the sharing of intelligence that is so critical to stopping terrorists in other attacks.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m. today.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:36 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. DOLE).

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2004—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant Democratic leader.

Mr. REID. Madam President, we just completed a very important vote prior to the break. Senator BINGAMAN and I offered an amendment to increase funding for programs relating to Hispanic children. There was a point of order raised and that amendment was defeated.

I understand that. But I have trouble understanding a communication re-

leased today from the White House. On this very day we were voting on important issues relating to Hispanic children in America, they released this communication that talks about an historic partnership to improve educational opportunity for Hispanic children. This is nothing but fluff, big piles of fluff.

When it comes to putting the programs where their mouth is, nothing ever happens. We had an opportunity this morning to vote to help Hispanic children, and what do we get from the White House? We get a press release talking about an opportunity to sit down and talk. Here is the statement: The partners will work with local communities to reinforce positive expectations.

The positive expectations were the programs that have been cut and eliminated by this White House.

I hope the American public sees what is happening. What we have from the White House is nothing but piles of paper, nothing to help the children about whom I spoke earlier today, including Ted Eubanks, Mississippi Valley State University, or Maria de Lurdes Reynoso, who talked about programs that changed her life, or Oscar Guzman, who talks about programs that have given his family dignity as the first person in his family to attend college.

I repeat for the third time in these few minutes, I am willing to understand the defeat that has just occurred where, with rare exceptions, the majority voted against the amendment offered by the Senator from New Mexico and me to help Hispanic children. I understand that. However, to have the hypocrisy, the same day, issuing this release, "Historic partnership to improve education for Hispanic Americans," is absolutely ridiculous.

AMENDMENT NO. 1552 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1542

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I rise to join with my colleague from Maine, Senator COLLINS, to introduce a bipartisan amendment to increase the funding for nursing programs. I send this amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendments are set aside. The clerk will the report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. DODD, proposes an amendment numbered No. 1552 to amendment No. 1542.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows: