

vote on the motion to proceed to S. 1776 occur at a time to be determined with the concurrence of the two leaders.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT
AGREEMENT—H.R. 2892

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday, October 20, following a period of morning business, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2892, the Homeland Security Appropriations Act, with debate on the conference report limited to 3 hours and 15 minutes, with the time divided as follows: 1 hour under the control of the majority leader or his designee, and 2 hours and 15 minutes under the control of the Republican leader or his designee; that if any points of order are raised, any votes on the motions to waive occur upon the use or yielding back of all time identified above; further, that upon disposition of the points of order, and if the motions to waive are successful, the Senate then vote immediately on adoption of the conference report, with 2 minutes of debate, equally divided and controlled, prior to any sequence of votes with respect to the conference report.

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

IRAN REFINED PETROLEUM
SANCTIONS ACT

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, in the coming weeks, the Senate will consider S. 908, the Iran Refined Petroleum Sanctions Act. Passing this bill should not be difficult 76 Members of this body are registered as cosponsors—but it is vital that we do.

I support strong sanctions to build pressure on Iran to end its illegal nuclear weapons program, which, in light of the recent disclosure of the Qom uranium enrichment facility, may be far more advanced than we realize.

However, China and Russia continue to thwart meaningful action in the United Nations Security Council. As Bob Robb, a columnist for the Arizona Republic notes, both nations have commercial ties to the Iranian regime and are unlikely to abandon their interests and assist the United States in building pressure on the Iran.

Mr. Robb also emphasizes that U.S. efforts to halt Iran's nuclear program have taken on a new urgency after the President cancelled the deployments of the ground-based interceptors to Poland and the Czech Republic.

Had the President managed to get support from Russia for more sanctions on Iran in exchange for sacrificing missile defense, things might look different. However, as shown by Secretary Clinton's recent visit to Moscow, Russia's position has not changed, and the U.S. has nothing to show for breaking

its strategic commitments with two important allies.

Time is not on the administration's side. Every day the Iranians stockpile more uranium and get closer to having long-range missiles capable of delivering the world's most dangerous weapons against our allies, our deployed forces, and our homeland. The time to act is now.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the op-ed by Mr. Robb be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

IRAN A TEST OF OBAMA'S NEW DIPLOMACY

(By Robert Robb)

Iran is providing a premature and very high-risk test of President Barack Obama's new approach to American diplomacy.

Simplified, the thesis of the new Obama approach is that if the United States plays nicer with others, others will play nicer with us and be more willing to help do tough things.

I've never held out much hope for the Obama approach. I believe that nations generally act in their self-interest without regard to sentiments about other countries.

On the other hand, the Bush administration's blustery approach only made the rest of the world more hostile and resentful, which wasn't in our self-interest. So, it was worth giving the Obama approach a whirl.

The Obama approach, however, was intended to generate good will over time. The United States would cooperate more on international issues such as climate change and in international organizations such as the U.N. We would engage in direct diplomacy with troublesome regimes such as in Iran, North Korea, Syria, Venezuela and Cuba, all of which Obama said would receive presidential meetings in his first year in office.

After showing good will and willingness to engage in direct diplomacy, the rest of the world would be more willing to support the United States if tougher efforts to rein in dangerous rogue behavior nevertheless proved necessary, went the theory.

Iran has spoiled and short-circuited the rollout of the new Obama diplomacy. The disputed Iranian election made it difficult to engage in direct diplomacy with the current government without appearing to give the back of the hand to those risking their lives to protest its illegitimacy. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad stepped up his attacks on Israel's right to exist. And Iran remains unflinching and deceitful about its rapidly-developing nuclear program.

So, the Obama administration is going to have to test its new diplomatic approach before laying all the prerequisites by trying to organize strong sanctions against Iran. It increased the stakes for such diplomacy greatly by abandoning the missile defense complex in Poland at least in part, it seems clear, to induce greater cooperation on Iran by Russia.

Sanctions would have to be crippling to have any hope of forcing Iran to abandon its nuclear ambitions. Only the equivalent of a non-military embargo on gasoline imports is thought to have sufficient effect to possibly get the job done.

To be effective, a ban on Iranian gasoline imports would require extraordinary international cooperation. Western powers might adopt them, and indeed Western suppliers have already been cutting ties to Iran. But gasoline is transportable and tradable, so masking its origins is difficult but doable.

The national interest calculations would suggest that Russia and China are unlikely to go along with potentially effective sanctions against Iran, officially or unofficially. Iran is a client of Russia's on nuclear technology and military apparatus. China is a client for Iranian oil, which provides 15 percent of China's crude supplies.

They also have the interest Robert Kagan has cited that all autocratic regimes have in thwarting efforts to pressure and delegitimize other autocratic regimes.

The need to very quickly cobble together an effective sanctions regimen against Iran is an unfair test of Obama's new approach. But it's the test that has to be taken.

If the effort to impose effective sanctions fails, as it is likely to do, the Russian gambit will prove very costly.

If sanctions fail and Israel doesn't act, the world may have to live with an Iran capable of producing a nuclear weapon. In that world, the Poland missile defense complex would have been very valuable.

The Obama administration said that it was abandoning the Poland complex designed to shoot down long-range missiles because the intelligence suggested Iran has slowed down the development of its long-range capability. It's hard to credit that. Iran has successfully tested a two-stage rocket and put a satellite in space.

Theater missile defense, which the Obama administration says it will emphasize more, is important. But in a world with a nuclear-capable Iran, so is the European missile defense against long-range threats the Obama administration just abandoned.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LOUISIANA WWII
VETERANS

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I am proud to honor a group of 92 World War II veterans from all over Louisiana who travelled to Washington, DC, on October 10 to visit the various memorials and monuments that recognize the sacrifices of our Nation's invaluable servicemembers.

Louisiana HonorAir, a group based in Lafayette, LA, sponsored this trip to the Nation's Capital. The organization is honoring surviving World War II Louisiana veterans by giving them an opportunity to see the memorials dedicated to their service. The veterans visited the World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Iwo Jima Memorials. They also traveled to Arlington National Cemetery.

This was the second of three flights Louisiana HonorAir made to Washington, DC, this fall. It is the 19th flight to depart from Louisiana, which has sent more HonorAir flights than any other State to the Nation's Capital.

World War II was one of America's greatest triumphs but was also a conflict rife with individual sacrifice and tragedy. More than 60 million people worldwide were killed, including 40 million civilians, and more than 400,000 American servicemembers were slain during the long war. The ultimate victory over enemies in the Pacific and in Europe is a testament to the valor of American soldiers, sailors, airmen, and