

## MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I therefore ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

REORGANIZATION OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I would like to speak for just a moment to alert my fellow Senators and others about an important development this evening which I think we categorize as another piece of good news, in addition to the adoption of the conference report on the tax reform just concluded by the Senate.

Even though the conference report is in the process of being signed and has not yet been filed, I think I can advise my colleagues that later on this evening the House and Senate Armed Services Committees will have concluded their conference report, including the important revisions of the Department of Energy which follow generally along the lines of the so-called Rudman report recommendations and the amendment that Senators MURKOWSKI and DOMENICI and I filed earlier in this session to reorganize the Department of Energy.

The House and Senate had both passed versions of that reform of the Department of Energy. The matter was concluded today in the House-Senate conference report of the Armed Services bill, and that is the vehicle by which the reorganization of the Department of Energy will occur.

Just to recapitulate a little bit about how this came about, if you will recall, as a result of the espionage that resulted in the Chinese receiving significant secrets about nuclear weapons of the United States and the possibility that some of that information had come out of our National Laboratories, there was a great deal of study of the security at our National Labs and in the weapons program generally of the Department.

The President's own Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, the so-called PFIAB, headed by former Senator Warren Rudman, issued a report, really a scathing indictment of the Department of Energy, its past security policies or lack of security, and its inability to reorganize itself notwithstanding Secretary Richardson's efforts to begin to reorganize the Department. What it said was the Department of Energy was incapable of reorganizing itself. They reiterated a long list of things which the Department had failed to do, which it had failed to put into place, and described the whole situation at the Department as such that it was impossible to expect them to be able to do this on their own.

Therefore, the Rudman commission recommended strongly the Congress do this reorganization by legislation. That is when Senators DOMENICI, MURKOWSKI and I reoriented our amendment to follow closely the Rudman commission recommendations and introduced that as an amendment before this body.

It was originally introduced to the Armed Services bill. It was later put on the Intelligence bill instead. But the Armed Services Committee took the amendment and has worked it now in the conference committee, as I said. As a result of their agreement tonight, there will be a reorganization of the Department, assuming the President signs the Defense authorization bill, which I am sure he would want to do.

Reorganization was agreed to in principle by Secretary Richardson, although there were many things he wanted to change in the detail of it. But what it will do in a nutshell is to establish within the Department of Energy a semiautonomous agency that will have the accountability and the responsibility for managing our nuclear weapons and complex including the National Laboratories. It will be headed by a specific person, an Under Secretary, who will be responsible to the Secretary directly and to a Deputy Secretary if the Secretary so desires.

While, of course, the Secretary of Energy remains in general control of all of his Department, including the semiautonomous agency, on a day-to-day basis it is anticipated this agency will be operated by the Under Secretary, who is responsible for its functions. It will involve security, intelligence, counterintelligence, all of the different weapons, the Navy nuclear program and the other things at the laboratory that relate to our nuclear weapons. To a large extent it will remove the influences of other parts of the Department of Energy over the nuclear weapons program.

One of the things the Rudman commission found was that there were too many people with their fingers in the pie; that the laboratories and the weapons program people were having to get too many sign-offs from too many other people around the Department to work efficiently and effectively. The input of the field offices made it very difficult to know who was responsible, and it was hard to find out in some cases who you even had to get sign-offs from in order to get anything done. They said, in effect, it was no wonder the left hand didn't know what the right hand was doing and that is why they recommended a very clear chain of command, a very clear line of authority with accountability and responsibility with one person at the top and a bunch of people answerable to him and only him—as well as the Secretary, of course.

The net result of that should be we will have a much tighter organization

run much more efficiently. We will not have the influences of these other disparate people within the Department. Security can be carefully monitored and controlled and, in fact, maintained and in some cases even established. Therefore, the security of the nuclear weapons program generally and the laboratory specifically can be enhanced and we will not have the kind of espionage problems we have had in the past.

That is a summary of the problem, the recommendation of the Rudman report, the recommendations Senators DOMENICI, MURKOWSKI, and I introduced, and the action of the House-Senate Armed Services Committee today in approving this particular plan.

I thank some people specifically involved in developing this. In addition, of course, to Senator DOMENICI, who was the primary mover behind this idea, and Senator Rudman and the members of his panel; Senator MURKOWSKI added a great deal as did Senator SHELBY, the chairman of the Intelligence Committee, and Senator WARNER, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee in the House.

Specifically, I thank Senator WARNER for his patience for working with a lot of people who had different ideas about what ought to be done, bringing this to a near successful conclusion, from my point of view, and which will enable us to move forward very quickly with this reorganization.

There are also some special staff people who, as always, make these things happen. In the Senate, the staffs of Senators DOMENICI and MURKOWSKI; Alex Flint, Howard Useem, and John Rood did a great deal of work on this and should be complimented. Two Members of the House of Representatives, who were very active in making this work, Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER and Congressman MAC THORBERRY were really the key movers and shakers on this.

So as we get ready to leave here this evening, I think it is important for us to acknowledge the work of these people and the leadership of Senator WARNER and the conclusion which I hope can soon be announced, as the successful completion of the conference, at least in this one important area, making a great stride toward ensuring the security of our weapons programs and our National Laboratories.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to thank our distinguished colleague, together with Senators DOMENICI and MURKOWSKI and their respective staffs. Indeed, the staff of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the House Armed Services Committee all collaborated to try to make this a constructive, constitutional, and balanced approach.

But if I could ask the Senator a question, so those persons who have not had