

SENATE—Friday, October 8, 1999

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, all power and authority belongs to You. You hold the universe in Your hands and focus Your attention on the planet Earth. We humble ourselves before You, for You alone are Lord of all nations, and You have called our Nation to be a leader in the family of nations. By Your providence, You have brought to this Senate the men and women through whom You can rule wisely in soul-sized matters that affect the destiny of humankind. With awe and wonder at Your trust in them, the Senators enter executive session today to confront the issues of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty.

Grip their minds with three great assurances to sustain them especially today and next Tuesday: You are Sovereign of this land, and they are accountable to You; You are able to guide their thinking, speaking, and decisions if they will but ask You; and You will bring unity so that they may lead our Nation in its strategies of defense, and the world in its shared obligation to use nuclear power for creative and not destructive purposes.

O God of peace, hear our prayer, for You are our Lord and Savior. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MIKE DEWINE, a Senator from the State of Ohio, 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 ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, today the Senate will begin consideration of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty with debate taking place throughout the day. Debate time is limited to 14 hours and will resume at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 12. I encourage my colleagues to come to the floor to discuss this important issue.

As a reminder, cloture was filed on the conference report to accompany

the Agriculture appropriations bill on Thursday, and by previous consent the Senate will proceed to that cloture vote on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. It is hoped that the vote regarding the treaty can be stacked to follow the 5:30 vote.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Brad Sweet, staff assistant on the Government Affairs Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services be given floor privileges during consideration of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty.

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

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator HELMS, has asked that I manage the time until he is able to arrive, and in that regard I would like to make an opening statement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST-BAN TREATY

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution of ratification.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),

That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty, opened for signature and signed by the United States at New York on September 24, 1996, including the following annexes and associated documents, all such documents being integral parts of and collectively referred to in this resolution as "Treaty", (contained in Senate Treaty Document 105-28):

- (1) Annex 1 to the Treaty entitled "List of States Pursuant to Article II, Paragraph 28";
- (2) Annex 2 to the Treaty entitled "List of States Pursuant to Article XIV";
- (3) Protocol to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty.
- (4) Annex 1 to the Protocol.
- (5) Annex 2 to the Protocol.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, let me just pose one unanimous-consent request before we begin. To the extent that it is possible with respect to people in the Chamber ready to make statements, I ask unanimous consent that the debate on the proposition be divided in a way that proponents and opponents speak in opposition to each other, one following the other.

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

The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. BIDEN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. BIDEN. It has been raised whether or not that is a good idea. As I understand the unanimous-consent request, it is to the extent possible we will try to alternate between Democrat and Republican, opponents and proponents. That is the same as saying, with one exception, for and against. I do not expect that to mean that we would not engage each other in colloquy and debate so we don't just have statement after statement.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. KYL. That is precisely why I framed it the way I did.

Mr. DORGAN. Reserving the right to object—

Mr. KYL. It would not be appropriate to say Republican and Democrat, since I know Senator SPECTER would like to speak not in opposition.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I hope the Senator would not put forth any unanimous-consent request. I hope we would simply have an agreement among the two leaders in the Chamber that they will alternate back and forth. The difficulty with a unanimous-consent agreement is you may get a circumstance where you have no one on one side and three or four speakers on the other side.

I think it is practical to manage it the way the Senator has suggested.

Mr. KYL. With the understanding that Senator BIDEN and I just reached, and the Senator just articulated, I withdraw the request, and I assume we can proceed in that fashion.

Mr. President, I rise today to explain why I strongly oppose the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty that has been submitted to the Senate for its advice and consent.

I think the words of six distinguished Americans who formerly bore the responsibility for safeguarding our nation's security as Secretary of Defense frame the issue before the Senate quite well. In a letter to the majority leader this week, James Schlesinger, Dick Cheney, Frank Carlucci, Caspar Weinberger, Donald Rumsfeld, and Melvin Laird who served as Secretaries of Defense in the Reagan, Bush, Ford, and Nixon administrations, stated:

As the Senate weighs whether to approve the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), we believe Senators will be obliged to focus on one dominant, inescapable result were it to be ratified: over the decades ahead, confidence in the reliability of our nuclear weapons stockpile would inevitably decline,