CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE
June 7, 1999

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to S. 38, and I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to the Y2K legislation:

Trent Lott, John McCain, Rod Grams, Mike Crapo, Bill Frist, Mike Enzi, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Judd Gregg, Strom Thurmond, Chuck Hagel, Rick Santorum, Paul Coverdell, Bob Smith, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Wayne Allard, and Charles E. Grassley.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, this cloture vote will occur on Wednesday 1 hour after the Senate convenes unless an additional consent is granted. I now withdraw the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to proceed is withdrawn.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business, 1 hour after the Senate convenes unless objection, it is so ordered.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CIVIL AFFAIRS CORPS

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, on June 1, 1989, the Department of the Army by General Order No. 22 established and placed the United States Army Reserve Civil Affairs Corps under the U.S. Army Regional System, effective June 16, 1989, with its regimental home base at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The Home Base Commander is currently Major General Kenneth R. Bowra, Commander and Commandant, U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School.

The U.S. Army Regional System was created by Army Regulation 600–82 “to enhance combat effectiveness through a framework that provides the opportunity to develop a single regiment, develops loyalty and commitment, fosters an extended sense of belonging, improves unit esprit, and institutionalizes the war fighting ethos to provide each soldier with a continuous identification with a single regiment.”

On June 16, 1989, an activation ceremony for the Corps was conducted during the Civil Affairs Association Annual Conference in Pensacola, Florida.

At that time, the Corps distinctive standard was uncased and the Corps insignia adopted. The following designations were created by Army Regulation 600–82: MG William R. Berkman as Honorary Chief of Civil Affairs; COL Eli E. Nobleman as Honorary Colonel; CSM Raymond A. Lash as Honorary Sergeant Major; COL Joseph P. Kirlin III as Adjutant; and COL Kalman A. Oravetz as Chairman of the Corps Committee.

Since then, the membership in the Corps has spread throughout all Army Reserve Civil Affairs units and to other Army Reserve soldiers, active and retired, who are or have been in the Civil Affairs Branch. Currently, there are more than 2,200 soldiers who are members of the Corps.

The Corps Committee operates under a charter to provide advice and assistance to the Honorary Chief of Civil Affairs and the Corps Home Base Commander with respect to Corps matters. The Corps Committee presently includes the Chairman, Adjutant, Honorary Colonel, Honorary Warrant Officer, Honorary Sergeant Major, Commanding Generals and Command Sergeant Majors of the five major Civil Affairs commands and other members designated by the Honorary Chief of Civil Affairs. The Home Base Commander and the Honorary Chief of Civil Affairs are ex-officio members. The Committee meets biannually at the times and sites of the meeting of the Civil Affairs Association Board of Directors.

Support to the Corps is provided by the Civil Affairs Association. The Association has existed since its formation in 1947 with a principal purpose to maintain and enhance the Civil Affairs capabilities required by the Armed Forces of our Nation. Support of the Corps is included in the broad objectives of the Association. The Corps and the Association have worked together to implement their common objectives.

The efforts of the Corps and Association to enhance Civil Affairs soldiers’ esprit de corps have included:


3. Shrivenham Plaque. The presentation and dedication in 1994 at the British Army Base at Shrivenham, England, of a commemorative plaque to memorialize the organization and marshaling of Civil Affairs and Military Government units in 1944 for World War II operations in Europe.

4. Civil Affairs Exhibits. The preparation and presentation at Civil Affairs conferences of exhibits of historic applications of Civil Affairs doctrine and operations in military operations conducted by the Armed Forces of our Nation.

5. Recognition of Civil Affairs in Military Museums. Currently, planning is underway to support and ensure that military museums have appropriate displays and information about the roles and contributions of Civil Affairs in military operations in our history.

6. Awards Programs—Individuals. Recognition of deserving soldiers and individuals as Distinguished and Honorary Members of the Corps. Award of the Corps Esprit de Corps Medallion has been presented to Corps members and notables. The first medallion was presented to Senator Strom Thurmond who served in combat in World War II as a Civil affairs staff officer in the Army Reserve, commanded major Civil Affairs units and retired as a Major General.

7. Awards Programs—Units. Distinguished Unit Citations have been awarded to Civil Affairs units in recognition of their accomplishments and contributions in military operations in Grenada, Panama, Somalia, the Persian Gulf War and Haiti. Units currently participating in military operations in Bosnia and those relating to Kosovo will be recognized.

Mr. President, the U.S. Army Reserve Civil Affairs Corps, with support of the Civil Affairs Association, is fulfilling the objectives and purposes of the Army Regional System. I congratulate both the officers and soldiers of the Civil Affairs Corps for their service to our Nation and the Association for its support of the men and women who proudly wear the insignia of the Civil Affairs Corps.

RETIREMENT OF DONALD E. MEINERS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, on July 1, my friend, Donald Meiners, will retire from Entergy-Mississippi after 39 years of service. Mr. Meiners began his career in 1960 as a residential salesman in Jackson for what was then Mississippi Power & Light Company. He was quickly promoted in the marketing and operations divisions which involved numerous moves across the state of Mississippi. He became an officer in 1975. After assignments with Middle South Utilities, the parent company of MP&L, which now is Entergy Corporation, Don returned to his home state of Mississippi as president and chief operating officer of Entergy-MS. Then, he became president and chief executive officer.

While Mr. Meiners is well respected in the corporate world, many Mississippians know him for his dedication and
service to charities and civic organizations within his community and state. He has served as Chairman of the Metro-Jackson Chamber of Commerce, President of the Jackson United Way and the Multiple Sclerosis Chapter of Mississippi.

While Chairman of the Metro-Jackson Chamber of Commerce, Don was instrumental in forming the Metro Economic Development Alliance which unites economic development professionals in the Jackson area and encourages a team effort in recruiting new industry to the area. He served as the first chairman of the Metro Jackson Housing Partnership. Don has also been a leader of national organizations as well. He serves as a National Trustee of Boys and Girls Clubs of America and just last year served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Business and Industry Political Action Committee in Washington, DC.

Duane O’Neill, who is President of the Metro-Jackson Chamber of Commerce, said, “Don Meiners personifies a visionary leader, and he possesses the technical skills to translate that vision into action. His unquestioned integrity has always brought people together in an atmosphere of cooperation.”

I am personally grateful for Don’s work and involvement to help improve the state’s economy. As an example of his outstanding community service, in 1996, Don Meiners was recognized as the outstanding volunteer of the year in economic development for the state of Mississippi.

Don has been married for 42 years to his high school sweetheart, Pat, who has been a tremendous asset to him and to the communities where they have lived. They have two sons, Chris and Chuck, and a daughter-in-law Pam. When I asked Don what he would do in retirement he quickly mentioned spending time with the “light of his life”, his granddaughters Hannah and Mallory.

Mr. President, it is a pleasure for me to bring to the attention of the Senate the career and influence of my friend Don Meiners, and to thank him for his many years of service to Entergy and the people of Mississippi. Mississippi is a better place because of him. While Don is retiring from the utility business, I know he will go on working to help make life better in his community and in our state.

I wish Don and Pat much continued success and happiness in the years ahead.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT
Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED
As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Sen-