

SENATE—Friday, December 15, 2000*(Legislative day of Friday, September 22, 2000)*

The Senate met at 12 noon, on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

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

God of peace, fill our minds and flood our hearts with Your peace. May we hear Your message: "Peace on earth, good will to all people" above the discordant voices of these turbulent times. Give us Your peace that calms our nerves, conditions our thinking, and clears our vision. Your peace is the serenity of heaven provided for the loved and forgiven. It is the assurance that we will receive all that we need to meet the challenges of this day. Your peace comes to us when we commit our responsibilities to You and then work with Your guidance and grace.

Help the Senators to be peacemakers as they finish the work of this 106th Congress. Bear on their hearts and minds the words of Thomas Jefferson after the contentious election of 1800: "The greatest good we can do our country is to heal its party divisions and make them one people." So we all dedicate ourselves to be peacemakers as You continue to heal our land. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable LINCOLN CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. L. CHAFEE). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 1 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, and with time to be equally divided in the usual form.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The able acting majority leader is recognized.

PRAISE FOR THE CHAPLAIN

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I say with gratitude that we have such a marvelous Chaplain, one who with great skill and such strength of feeling and emotion is able to deliver the message of prayer and incorporate those historic moments of history.

That election of Thomas Jefferson was one, fortunately, we avoided this time around; for Congress was involved, as our distinguished Chaplain and others know, and the vote in Congress was razor thin.

SCHEDULE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, as the Chair has advised, the Senate will be in a period of morning business today while awaiting the final appropriations bill from the House. The Senate was expected to consider the final package shortly after noon today. However, the vote is now expected to occur sometime later this afternoon. Senators will be updated throughout the day on the voting schedule.

Following the vote, the Senate is expected to complete its business to wrap up the 106th Congress. On behalf of the distinguished majority leader and the Democratic leader, we thank our colleagues for their patience and cooperation.

SENATOR CHARLES S. ROBB

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, Virginia has had a long history of distinguished citizens of our great Commonwealth who come forward to serve Virginia. Among them in this long line of distinguished individuals will be CHARLES S. ROBB.

We started our careers together when he served in the Marine Corps. That was back during the period of Vietnam. I was then serving—for over 5 years—as Under Secretary and Secretary of the Navy. I was privileged, of course, to serve with the Presiding Officer's father, Senator Chafee. At the time he was Secretary of the Navy; I served as his Under Secretary.

Senator ROBB had served his tour in Vietnam in 1961 through 1970 and then he remained in the Marine Corps Reserves from 1970 to 1991. I was privileged to wear the marine green during the Korean conflict and served for a very brief period in the Marines. However, I assure Members that the career of Senator ROBB was far more distinguished than the career of the senior

Senator, myself. I am pleased to acknowledge that. He then went on to serve as Lieutenant Governor from 1977 to 1981, and Governor from 1982 to 1986.

His two terms in the Senate began in 1988. He has been a Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, a committee which I have been privileged to chair since 1993. Throughout this distinguished record, it has been my good fortune to share a very warm friendship with the Senator and with his lovely wife and his children. We all know when we take the oath of office as U.S. Senator, the family plays the key role. I could not count the number of times I have been in matters relating to the Senate, trips relating to the Senate, our frequent joint appearances throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia these many years, beginning back when he was Lieutenant Governor, and there was Mrs. Robb, a daughter of a most distinguished American public servant, former President Lyndon Johnson and a former Member of the Senate.

So I wish him well. It was a difficult task in this past election. He respects both of us as marines. We have duties to perform. I hope the RECORD reflects that I performed that responsibility I felt very sincerely was necessary, but I did it in a spirit that preserved our friendship.

When I think back on his work, I think of the many times Senator ROBB came from that side of the aisle to this side of the aisle to join others in working on pieces of legislation which he felt, and indeed others felt, were in the best interests of this country. He was a bridgebuilder. He served that purpose on the Senate Armed Services Committee. He stood by my side as chairman these past 2 years, supported me, I think, almost in every instance. And he had very keen insight into the life of the men and women of the Armed Forces who serve today. He worked very hard on their behalf.

I hope history will reflect that his contributions directly benefited those who serve today and who will serve tomorrow. He also was quite active in working with me on the retirement benefits, particularly the medical benefits, for those who have served in years past.

Virginia is privileged to have one of the greatest shipyards—we like to think the greatest shipyard—in America. We have the naval shipyard as well as private shipyards. In those yards are built some of the finest ships that sail the seven seas today on behalf of our