

**SENATE—Wednesday, April 12, 2000**

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, the Reverend William K. Simmons, of Lexington, KY.

We are glad to have you with us.

**PRAYER**

The guest Chaplain, the Reverend William K. Simmons, offered the following prayer:

Let's pray together.

Almighty God, this body gathers today to conduct the business of the Republic. We pause to give thanks for Your blessing on our land and to seek Your continued care. Honor, we pray, the deliberations of these, selected by the people to represent them in guiding our Nation toward the goals of freedom, justice, and equality for all. Give each Member a sense of Your presence as he or she deliberates; may their judgments be those You can and will bless.

We also remember the families of these present. Care for them whether they be here or back home. Keep them safe within Your protective Spirit.

May we always be mindful that governance is a sacred pact between the government and its people. Let us not in this seat of power fail to hear them. Bless these Senators this day and inspire them to serve the people with wisdom and humility. Amen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Honorable WAYNE ALLARD, a Senator from the State of Colorado, 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 PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Colorado is recognized.

**SCHEDULE**

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I announce that today the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 12 noon. Following morning business, it is hoped that an agreement can be reached regarding the consideration of the marriage tax penalty legislation. If an agreement is reached, Senators may expect votes throughout the day. If no

agreement is reached, the Senate will remain in morning business, with Senators speaking for up to 5 minutes each. As previously announced, the Senate will consider the budget resolution conference report and the McConnell stock options bill prior to the Easter recess.

I thank my colleagues for their attention and yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

**ORDER OF PROCEDURE**

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that during the period of morning business today Senators DORGAN and DURBIN be recognized for up to 15 minutes each. This would kind of balance out the time on both sides; that is, after the 2-hour block of time that has been set aside for others already.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

**RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME**

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

**MORNING BUSINESS**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there shall now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 12 noon, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

Under the previous order, the time until 11:30 a.m. shall be under the control of the Senator from Kansas, Mr. ROBERTS, and the Senator from Georgia, Mr. CLELAND.

The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, it is my understanding that Senator CLELAND and I have 2 hours reserved under the previous order in morning business. Is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is correct. Your time is reserved until 11:30 a.m.

**NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS**

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I am going to begin my remarks. We had originally intended for Senator CLELAND to begin this dialog. But I am going to go ahead since he has been detained. Then he can follow me. I do not think that is going to upset the order at all.

I thank my good friend, the distinguished Senator from Georgia, for this continued initiative and for his leadership in continuing our bipartisan foreign policy dialog.

As I said back in February during our first discussion, our objective is to try to achieve greater attention, focus, and mutual understanding—not to mention a healthy dose of responsibility—in this body in regard to America's global role and our vital national security interests. Our goal was to begin a process of building a bipartisan coalition, a consensus on what America's role should be in today's ever-changing, unsafe, and very unpredictable world.

This is our second dialog. We will focus today on how we can better define our vital national interests.

In doing our homework, both Senator CLELAND and I have been doing a lot of reading and pouring over quite a few books and articles and commentaries and reports and legislation and speeches and position papers and the like. If it was printed, we read it.

We have also been seeking the advice and counsel of everybody involved—in my case, the marine lance corporal about to deploy to Kosovo, to the very serious and hollow-faced old gentleman I visited at a Macedonian refugee camp, as well as foreign dignitaries and the military brass we admire and listen to as members of the Armed Services Committee, and all of the current and former advisors and experts and think tank dwellers and foreign policy gurus and intelligence experts. Needless to say, our foreign policy and national security homework universe is ever expanding and apparently without end. I hope I didn't leave anybody out.

We both now have impressive bibliographies that we can wave around and put in the RECORD and we can recommend to our colleagues to prove that our bibliography tank, as it were, is pretty full. We have very little or no excuse if we are not informed.

There was another book I wanted to bring to the attention of my colleagues. Its title is "Going for the Max." It involves 12 principles for living life to the fullest, written by our colleague and my dear friend, with a most appropriate and moving foreword from the Senate Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd