

SENATE—Wednesday, June 7, 2000

(Legislative day of Tuesday, June 6, 2000)

The Senate met at 9:31 a.m., 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:

Gracious God, You are never reluctant to bless us with exactly what we need for each day's challenges and opportunities. Sometimes we are stingy receivers who find it difficult to open our tight-fisted grip on circumstances and receive the blessings that You have prepared. You know our needs before we ask You but wait to bless us until we ask for Your help. We come to You now honestly to confess our needs. Lord, we need Your inspiration for our thinking, Your love for our emotions, Your guidance for our wills, and Your strength for our bodies. We have learned that true peace and lasting serenity result from knowing that You have an abundant supply of resources to help us meet any situation, difficult person, or disturbing complexity. And so we may say with the psalmist, "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits.—Psalm 68:19. 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 PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). The Senator from Virginia is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, today the Senate will resume consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill. Under the order, there will be a total of 90 minutes on the Kerrey amendment regarding strategic forces, and the Warner second-degree amendment. Following that debate, there will be up to 2 hours of debate on the Johnson and Warner amendments regarding CHAMPUS and TRICARE. After the use or yielding back of that time, there will be up to four votes on the pending amendments. Therefore, Senators can

expect votes to begin not later than 1 p.m.

Those Senators who intend to offer amendments are encouraged to work with the bill managers in an effort to complete this important legislation prior to the end of this week. Further votes can be anticipated during today's session of the Senate.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 2549, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2549) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 90 minutes of debate equally divided on the Kerrey and Warner amendments.

Pending:

Warner modified amendment No. 3173, to extend eligibility for medical care under CHAMPUS and TRICARE to persons over age 64.

Kerrey amendment No. 3183, to repeal a limitation on retirement or dismantlement of strategic nuclear delivery systems in excess of military requirements.

Warner amendment No. 3184 (to amendment No. 3183), to provide for correction of scope of waiver authority for limitation on retirement or dismantlement of strategic nuclear delivery systems, and authority to waive limitation.

Mr. WARNER. Yesterday, Mr. President, we made progress on this bill—not quite as much as I had hoped, but nevertheless progress was made. I wish to draw to the attention of my colleagues that late last night the ranking member and I put forth an amendment to this bill regarding the D-Day memorial. As the last act, it seemed to the distinguished Senator from Michigan and myself that it was most appropriate that the 56th anniversary of D-Day be concluded with an amendment which provides the opportunity for, first, the Senate, and hopefully the entire Congress, to participate in the raising of the needed dollars for the

World War II memorial. Over 1,000 World War II veterans are dying each day. Organizers are within \$6 million of reaching that sum of money needed to complete the construction and design phases of this memorial.

I am pleased to say this amendment passed last night. I thank my distinguished colleague, Mr. LEVIN, for joining me. All the World War II veterans currently serving in the Senate were added as cosponsors. I served very briefly at the end of World War II. And the others, seven in number, were added as cosponsors together with our distinguished colleague, Senator KERREY—although not a World War II veteran, a veteran of Vietnam with greatest distinction. So I am pleased to make that announcement. Some Senators may have missed it last night.

I note Senator KERREY's presence in the Chamber. We thank the Senator for cosponsoring the amendment last night by which the Senate goes on record endorsing a contribution of \$6 million, I might add, out of nonappropriated funds. We were able to get the funding from that account.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I join my good friend from Virginia in commenting on that action last night, how appropriate it is for the heroes and heroines who served us so well in World War II, both in war and on the home front. As my dear friend from Virginia mentioned last night, there were an awful lot of heroes and heroines—obviously, veterans first and foremost, but a lot of folks here at home. And this memorial is to them. We have now nine World War II veterans remaining, I believe, in the Senate; is that correct?

Mr. WARNER. We have the number here. I will get it.

Mr. LEVIN. Every one of those were cosponsors, each one with extraordinary stories to tell. I was just delighted to be a small part of that, even though I am not a vet, just in some way to speak for the nonvets in this body about the contributions which have been made by those who served us.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I want to make it very clear that this Senator, the Senator from Virginia, although his service at the end of World War II was brief, a little less than 2 years, does not put himself in the hero class with those in this body who, indeed, very humbly and rightfully earned that hero distinction. I may have served in Korea in the second engagement of our country in war but not at this particular time. Basically, the