

competition that GAO rejected as unfair. It had the effect of leaving in California as many as 3,200 jobs for as long as six years after the BRAC decision, or conveniently after the year 2000 Presidential election.

The BRAC monies designated to move jobs and equipment to Utah and elsewhere were mismanaged. They were spent to improve the very facilities at McClellan AFB that the BRAC had intended to close! This, the President and his gang thought, would make it easier for the base to attract private contractors to perform the privatized work in place.

The delay caused by this contrived competition cost the taxpayers an additional \$500 million, according to GAO, to sustain the bases' workloads in place, despite the decision of BRAC to ship the workloads to the other Air Force depots.

In May 1998, as many of you will remember, the Secretary of the Air Force was embarrassed by a memo written by his office urging that the Lockheed-Martin bid for the California work win the award. This behavior, to my mind, remains one of the most egregious violations of the Ethics Reform Act I have seen in my 24 years in the Senate. This act prohibits precisely the type of collusion in which the Secretary of the Air Force participated.

It was so outrageous that Secretary Bill Cohen, to his everlasting credit, removed the Secretary of the Air Force from the selection team that would oversee the public-private competition for the McClellan workload.

But this was not the end of the Clinton Administration's meddling: they directed the Air Force to deny the GAO, the congressional watchdog agency responsible for overseeing the expenditure of taxpayers' funds, access to the cost-data and other information used by the Air Force to put together competition for the McClellan workload.

As might be expected, the long-term effect of this mischievous meddling had a cost on readiness. Delays in workload transfer were directly responsible for a severe F-16 parts shortage in 1999. Also, there is a suspicious relationship between the delayed workload transfer and the KC-135 tanker problems early this year when the fleet was grounded because of a rear stabilizer malfunction, a problem akin to the cause of the Alaskan Airline aircraft off the California coast. My personal inquiry into the KC-135 issue demonstrated that if the entire KC-135 team responsible for the repair of this part of the aircraft had been transferred to Utah in a timely way, as directed by the BRAC, the design flaw would probably never have occurred.

There is an answer to BRAC: let Congress endorse the decisions of the military services, without the filter of presidential intervention, whether by a

BRAC-like commission or any other procedure. The military services know better than any other body the best and the worst of their installations, the ones that pay their own way, and the ones that drain the taxpayers' pockets. After my state's experience with the BRAC process, I am more inclined to trust this body to evaluate the services' recommendations.

I see that we have a very important guest. I will be happy to yield the floor at this time for Senator HELMS.

VISIT TO THE SENATE BY THEIR MAJESTIES KING ABDULLAH II AND QUEEN RANIA AL-ABDULLAH OF THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in recess for 7 minutes so the Senators may pay their respects to the Honorable King of Jordan and his lovely lady.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:56 p.m. recessed until 5:04 p.m.; whereupon the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. VOINOVICH).

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

AMENDMENT NO. 3197

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the pending business is the amendment offered by the Senator from Arizona; am I not correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has 33 minutes.

Mr. WARNER. It is my intention to yield back the time, I say to my colleagues. I will wait momentarily, and we can proceed to the vote. Has the vote been ordered, Mr. President?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have not been ordered.

Mr. WARNER. I ask for the yeas and nays on the McCain-Levin amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, we jointly yield back all time. The vote may proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 3197. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 35, nays 63, as follows:—

The result was announced—yeas 35, nays 63, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 120 Leg.]

YEAS—35

Bayh	Kennedy	Moynihan
Biden	Kerrey	Reed
Bryan	Kerry	Reid
Byrd	Kohl	Robb
Chafee, L.	Kyl	Rockefeller
DeWine	Landrieu	Roth
Feingold	Leahy	Smith (OR)
Gramm	Levin	Thompson
Grassley	Lieberman	Voynovich
Hagel	Lincoln	Wellstone
Harkin	Lugar	Wyden
Jeffords	McCain	

NAYS—63

Abraham	Dodd	Lott
Akaka	Dorgan	Mack
Allard	Durbin	McConnell
Ashcroft	Edwards	Mikulski
Baucus	Enzi	Murkowski
Bennett	Feinstein	Murray
Bingaman	Fitzgerald	Nickles
Bond	Frist	Roberts
Boxer	Gorton	Santorum
Breaux	Graham	Sarbanes
Brownback	Grams	Schumer
Bunning	Gregg	Sessions
Burns	Hatch	Shelby
Campbell	Helms	Smith (NH)
Cleland	Hollings	Snowe
Cochran	Hutchinson	Specter
Collins	Hutchison	Stevens
Conrad	Inhofe	Thomas
Coverdell	Inouye	Thurmond
Craig	Johnson	Torricelli
Daschle	Lautenberg	Warner

NOT VOTING—2

Crapo	Domenici
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The amendment (No. 3197) was rejected.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to keep all Senators informed. We are making progress on this bill. We are still anxious to get indications from Senators with regard to their amendments. We are having very good cooperation on both sides. I will address that later this evening.

Under the existing order, I believe it is now the amendment of the Senator from Virginia. Am I not correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. WARNER. I ask unanimous consent that this amendment be laid aside temporarily.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the disposition of the Wellstone amendment—that will now be the pending business as soon as I yield the floor. Is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. WARNER. Following the disposition of the Wellstone amendment, which is subject to a 30-minute time agreement, I ask unanimous consent that Senator ROBERT SMITH be recognized to offer his amendment regarding