June 14, 2000

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

SANCTIONS IN FOOD AND MEDICINE—Continued

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, if I might continue, let me again speak of my admiration for the two men—practically speaking I can think of several amendments on our side which will not be given short time agreements on the other side and reciprocally is the situation. We ought to stick to the premise of bringing up those matters that are germane.

Mr. LEVIN. I can think of amendments on both sides that could require extensive debate, but there may be occasions where cloture is an appropriate way in this Senate. We have rules for that. With some of these amendments which have been waiting to be offered for so many months, I think the best way to do it is deal with them within the rules of the Senate. Happily, this is not one of those amendments. We should not in any way suggest the amendment of the Senator from North Dakota is involved in that particular issue. He is willing to take a short time agreement. I think we ought to put that in the bank, get this amendment up early, and vote on it.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, given the shortness of the hour, we should yield the floor so our colleague can finish. Perhaps there are others who wish to speak, too.

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Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, given the shortness of the hour, we should yield the floor so our colleague can finish. Perhaps there are others who wish to speak, too.
concluded, Senator GORTON from Washington. I intend to change it. As I indicated earlier, I do not think American food. You can't even buy a chicken, let alone kick Saddam Hussein out of Iraq, but every country in the world—Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Sudan, and Iraq—are told that they do not have the right to have access to it, to buy it, have the right to expect it, and to live in the world. Yet our farmers are told, ‘You can’t even buy American food. You can’t even buy it.’

That is just wrongheaded public policy. I intend to change it. As I indicated earlier, I do not think you can put a price on freedom. Poor people and those hungry people. I believe we accomplished that goal. It is now time for General Gordon to make this new entity work.

I have been trying for some weeks to get this nomination up. Just think: Last year, we passed structural reforms. It was signed into law by the President. And here we are almost a year later—just today—about to confirm the President’s nominee to head this new entity.

I have tested a considerable amount of authority in the Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration; that is, General Gordon. We trust that he will use it in the best of U.S. national security.

The overarching goal was to establish, for the first time in many years, a clear chain of command for the Department’s national security programs. Some disagree with the final product, but I believe we accomplished that goal. It is now time for General Gordon to make this new entity work.

... real and lasting security and counterintelligence reform at the weapons labs is simply unworkable without an operational structure and culture. To achieve the kind of protection that these sensitive labs must have, they and their functions must have their own autonomous operational structure free of all the obligations imposed by DOE management. The President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board went on to make the following recommendations to the President and Congress, (1) create a new semi-autonomous agency and (2) streamline the management of the DOE weapons labs management structure by abolishing ties between the weapons labs and all DOE regional, field and site offices, and all contractor intermediaries. The committee was very careful to fully implement the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board’s bipartisan recommendations, exactly as they were presented to President Clinton.

The Congress did not take this action lightly. We established this new entity in response to a multitude of reports and assessments which called for changes in the Department of Energy’s ‘dysfunctional’ organization structure. The reports include the 1999 ‘120-day study’ issued by the Institute for Defense Analyses, the 1999 Chiles Commission report, and the 1999 Foster Panel report—just to mention a few. However, the most compelling report was issued by President Clinton’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board in June 1999. That bipartisan report stated that...