June 14, 2000

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

wherever he chooses after the great service he has provided to the Congress.

I want to take a moment to say goodbye on behalf of the Senate to a man we know quite well. I know Senator DASCHLE is going to join me in this and make some comments, either in a few minutes or later. I am talking about Jim Talbert, who is Superintendent of the Senate's Periodical Press Gallery and is retiring this week after 32 years of service.

Jim and I came to the House of Representatives in the same year, 1968. He was hired in the House Daily Press Gallery, and I was hired as an aide to then-Congressman Bill Colmer, chairman of the Rules Committee. Twenty-three years and five speakers later, Jim crossed the DMZ in the Capitol to the Senate to be Superintendent of the Periodical Press Gallery.

Early on, Jim figured out what it took to get things done around here: know the rules. He knew them. That is why he became such a valuable resource. His expertise on congressional procedure is widely recognized and consulted by rookie reporters, veteran correspondents, and, yes, even by an occasional Senator or House Member who knows that he spent those many years in the House. His generosity in sharing his knowledge and time has brought him a great many friends on the second and third floors of this Capitol.

I have a letter from the Executive Committee of Correspondents that describes in the reporters' words all Jim has accomplished on their behalf in the Senate. I ask unanimous consent that that letter be printed in the RECORD. There being no objection, the letter ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:


DEAR JIM: The Executive Committee of Correspondents conveys its gratitude on behalf of the more than 250 publications and 1,700 reporters who benefited from your nine years as superintendent of the United States Senate Periodical Press Gallery. The transformation you have made running the press gallery has been nothing short of historic. The gallery has never operated in a more professional manner. The gallery staff was never better educated about the legislative process or more knowledgeable of what is happening at any given moment on the Senate floor. Reporters never had a better opportunity of snagging a seat and testing their hearing functions such as accrediting reporters and publications never operated in a more even-handed, efficient manner.

During your tenure, there was never a doubt that a reporter calling the gallery to ask about pending legislation would get an immediate and informed answer.

You deserve what you have accomplished. You also earn our praise for leaving in your wake a highly trained and motivated staff. The personal zeal you displayed in understanding the often complicated legislative process was infectious and you were a good teacher.

While replacing Jim Talbert is out of the question, since there is one of a kind, the mark you leave on the gallery will remain long after you enter your well-deserved retirement. The seeds you sowed will help reporters covering Congress for years to come.

We wish you and Judy a happy retirement to South Dakota filled with good health and mild winters.

Sincerely,

RICK MAZE, Chairman
CHERYL BOLEN, Secretary-Treasurer.
RICHARD E. COHEN.
LINDA CUNNINGHAM.
HEIDI GLENN.
AMY BORRUS.
TIM CURRAN.

Mr. LOTTE. While Jim no longer will be toiling with us every day, he is keeping his favorite jobs: husband, father, and grandfather. I am a little envious, to tell the truth. He and his wife, Judy, whom he met while working in the Capitol, are moving to her native South Dakota.

It is typical of Jim that he didn't want a big bang, a big fuss over his departure. But we couldn't let him go without first wishing him well and saying, "Thanks, Jim. You have earned it."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I join the majority leader in his commendation of an extraordinary part of this wonderful institution. Jim Talbert, as the majority leader has indicated, is retiring at the end of this week as the Superintendent of the Senate Periodical Press Gallery. He is one of hundreds of members of our Capitol family whom C-SPAN viewers never see but whose work, without whom this institution would simply not function. He has served Congress with distinction for 32 years.

Born on February 22, 1943, in Washington, D.C., he has resided here all of his life. He graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in journalism in 1964 and began his career on Capitol Hill in 1966, covering politics for the Timmons News Service.

In 1968, he joined the House Daily Press Gallery where he worked for 23 years. Much to our good fortune, he came to the Senate in 1991 as the Superintendent of the Senate Periodical Press Gallery. The periodical gallery is one of three press galleries in the Senate. It is the nerve center for Capitol Hill reporters representing national and local magazines and newsletters.

More than 1,700 journalists representing 250 different news organizations are credentialed to use the Periodical Press Gallery. Jim has a humorous story to share. Mr. President, I wish him and Judy all of the best as they begin their new life in South Dakota.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Virginia be recognized to offer a series of cleared amendments to the pending DOD authorization bill, and following the disposition of the 41-plus cleared amendments, the DOD authorization bill be laid aside and that the Senate then turn to the House Transportation appropriations bill and the Senate bill be immediately offered as an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I also had intended to ask consent that when the Senate resumes the DOD bill, the Smith amendment be laid aside and Senator DOD be recognized to offer his amendment regarding a Cuba commission. I am informed that Senator MCCAIN would object to that, but I assure Senator DASCHLE and Senator
Dodd and Senator MACK and Senator LEVIN and Senator WARNER, everybody, we will keep working to see if we can get this done. I think that is what we should do.

We are going to go back to DOD authorization in the morning in some form. Everybody is wanting to get in line or get their position first, or they don’t want us to allow that second-degreeslot to be opened, I guess, to the Smith amendment. Others want it to be open. It is kind of complicated. A lot of Senators are invoking their rights. They have a right to do that.

I do plead with the Senate, Republicans and Democrats, to work with us to try to get our appropriations bills done. I am going to continue to try to keep my word. Senator DASCHEL is working with me, and Senators are cooperating so we can come back to make progress on the Department of Defense authorization bill.

We were prepared to go to the Murray amendment, which is germane to the Defense bill. It is a Defense amendment. Senator PENDLETON or somebody objected to that. We will keep working here. I think we can work through this in a way that will allow us to come back to the Defense authorization bill and deal with Defense-related amendments, which is what I prefer. It is our national security we are talking about. But there are amendments that Senators on both sides of the aisle want to offer that are not germane. We will try to find an orderly way in which to do that.

At this point, I am advised that there will be objections on this side on one approach and on that side on another approach. Let’s keep working to find a way to get this done.

Mr. President, I just urge the cooperation of all Senators. The only way this dual track is going to work is if we can accommodate each other’s needs. That is what generated our agreement to address both bills in this fashion. Senators on both sides want to be accommodated. They have amendments to offer. This allows for that process to continue—to allow amendments on Defense authorization in the morning until early afternoon, and then to take up appropriations in the afternoon, so that we can work through the appropriations bills that we know we must get done.

We will be unable to go to appropriations bills in the future if we can’t continue to accommodate each other’s needs. I think this is working well. I hope we can continue to work well to work off the list of amendments. Senator REID does his magic with our list, and I know we have our colleagues on the other side who are attempting to do the same there. But we ought to have these votes and debates. I think it is good for the country and good for the institution to be able to have the opportunity to debate some of these issues. That is what we are doing, and that is why you see the cooperation you have this week.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, one of the reasons Senator DASCHEL and I decided to try to proceed on this dual track, trying to work on the Defense authorization bill in the morning and appropriations bills in the afternoon—it was Senator DASCHEL’s suggestion that we do that for the very purpose we are achieving here. It keeps people focused. Out of sight, out of mind. If we were not trying to come back to DOD authorization, everybody would go off to committee hearings and other work and would not focus on trying to get an orderly way to do it. So while it is not agreed to yet, it is exactly what we had in mind—to make everybody understand we are going to keep trying to do the Transportation appropriations bill, and we are going to focus on amendments and try to get order and process to go back to the Department of Defense authorization.

JOHN WARNER and Senator LEVIN, the two managers of this legislation, are trying very hard to find a way to work through this maze that they are faced with to get a Defense authorization bill for the national security of our country. Senator WARNER, working with others, has 41 amendments that we can consider. At this rate, or 3 or 2 days, maybe we can eliminate a couple hundred amendments. So we will keep trying to do that.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001—Continued

AMENDMENTS Nos. 3382 THROUGH 3424, EN BLOC

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I send a series of amendments to the desk en bloc, and I ask for their immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER] proposes amendments numbered 3382 through 3424, en bloc.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendments be dispensed with.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendments be agreed to en bloc, that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table and, finally, that any statements relating to any of these individual amendments be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The amendments (Nos. 3382 through 3424), were agreed to en bloc as follows:

AMENDMENT No. 3382

(Purpose: To clarify the duties of the Chief of Naval Research as the Navy’s manager of research funds)

On page 353, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

SEC. 191. MANAGEMENT OF NAVY RESEARCH FUNDS BY CHIEF OF NAVAL RESEARCH.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF DUTIES.—Section 5022 of title 10, United States Code—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) of subsection (a) the following:

"(b)(1) The Chief of Naval Research is the head of the Office of Naval Research; ", and

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection (c):"

(1) The Chief of Naval Research shall manage the Navy’s basic, applied, and advanced research funds to foster transition from science and technology to higher levels of research, development, test, and evaluation.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (a) of such section is amended by striking "(a)(1)" and inserting "(a)".

AMENDMENT No. 3383

(Purpose: To provide, with an offset, $5,000,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation Defense-wide is hereby increased by $5,000,000)

On page 55, strike lines 13 and 14, and insert the following:

SEC. 222. TECHNOLOGIES FOR DETECTION AND TRANSPORT OF POLLUTANTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO LIVE-FIRE ACTIVITIES.

(a) INCREASE IN AMOUNT.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4) for research, development, test, and evaluation Defense-wide is hereby increased by $5,000,000.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNT.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4), as increased by subsection (a), the amount available for the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (PE093716D) for technologies for the detection and transport of pollutants resulting from live-fire activities.

(c) APPROPRIATION REQUIREMENT.—Performance measures shall be established for the technologies described in subsection (b) for purposes of facilitating the implementation and utilization of such technologies by the Department of Defense.

(d) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4) for research, development, test, and evaluation, for the Army is hereby decreased by $5,000,000, with the amount of such decrease applied to Combat Vehicle and Automotive Advanced Technology (PE093005A).

AMENDMENT No. 3384

(Purpose: To increase by $45,000,000 the amount authorized to be appropriated or environmental restoration of formerly used defense sites and reduce defense-wide operations and maintenance accounts by $45,000,000 for mobility enhancements)

On page 55, strike lines 13 and 14, and insert the following:

(16) For Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Defense Sites:

On page 56, line 16, strike "$11,973,569,000" and insert "$11,928,569,000".