

trying to reach a mutually convenient time for the vote. Unfortunately, there are other colleagues who are unable on the Republican side to agree to an earlier time for consideration of the bill, even though it was our hope that we could come to the bill at the normal time of convening tomorrow. But that is impossible.

We will have the cloture vote at 1 o'clock. We will reconvene, as a result of the current circumstances, at 12 noon tomorrow. That will accommodate the need for additional discussion among all of those who are participating in the negotiations with regard to the Mexican trucking issue.

I understand we have made some progress this afternoon. I am hopeful we can continue to talk through the night and tomorrow morning as well.

This will facilitate additional discussion and hopefully perhaps reach some conclusion. If it does, we will vitiate the cloture motions. If it does not, of course, the cloture motion votes will then occur at 1 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

I thank my colleagues. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators allowed to speak therein for a period of not to exceed 10 minutes.

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

ALFONSO E. LENHARDT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the day before yesterday I met for the first time Alfonso Lenhardt. I met him in the majority leader's office. We were standing there alone after some niceties. I asked him: What is the pin on your lapel? He said: It is a Purple Heart. It is a medal for being injured in combat. He didn't say that, but that is what the Purple Heart stands for.

I mention that because I have a lot of affection for the Senate. I have a lot of affection for this Capitol complex. One of the main reasons I have so much affection is that I worked nights as a Capitol Hill policeman while going through law school. I can remember walking through Statuary Hall, never having had any understanding of who those great men were in the true sense of the word. I had the opportunity of meeting Everett Dirksen. I remember

walking on the floor. I was the policeman assigned to the Ohio Clock, as it is called. I was there when this man with long, white hair and a wonderful voice, Senator Everett Dirksen, came by. He was asked to comment on the first hydrogen explosion of a nuclear device by the Soviet Union. I stood there and listened to him.

I have fond memories of not only my congressional experience but also as a young man working as a Capitol policeman. My boss was the Sergeant at Arms. The Sergeant at Arms of the House and the Senate are very important positions.

I mention meeting with General Lenhardt because I think we should understand what a great choice this man is to be the Sergeant at Arms of the U.S. Senate. He is a professional in the true sense of the word. Prior to some preliminary issues, Senator DASCHLE never knew the man. His very fine chief of staff, Pete Rouse, and our very excellent Secretary of the Senate, Jeri Thomson, went through the process and came to Senator DASCHLE with a number of people. This is the person that Senator DASCHLE chose. What a great choice. He is a professional.

One of the jobs he had in the U.S. Army was to be the commanding general of the organization that takes care of national security and law enforcement programs.

In 1997, after more than 31 years of domestic and international experiences in national security and law enforcement, he retired from the U.S. Army. His responsibilities in the military were significant. He is a two-star general. I am told that he could have had a third star, but he decided to retire prior to doing that.

His last position with the Army was as commanding general of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command. There were over 1,800 separate locations of which he was the leader. He managed an Army installation consisting of 130,000 acres of training areas, administrative and logistical facilities, and support operations for over 23,000 civilian employees, military retirees, soldiers, and family members.

He also served as the senior military police officer for all police operations and security matters throughout the Army's worldwide sphere of influence.

So to have him at the Senate, having the responsibility, among other things, for the security of this Capitol complex, says it all. He certainly has had the experience. This man not only has had an outstanding military career, but he has a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice from the University of Nebraska, a master of arts degree in public administration from Central Michigan University, and a master of science degree in the administration of justice from Wichita State University. He also completed executive programs at Harvard University's Kennedy

School of Government and the University of Michigan Executive Business School.

He has been active in public service. This is a man who is outstanding. Those who watch the Senate proceedings on C-SPAN or who visit the Capitol, to see this historic site, may not realize all the work that goes into running the U.S. Capitol. The responsibilities are enormous. Unless something goes wrong, we take them for granted.

Senator DASCHLE has done some very fine things during his 7 years as Democratic leader, and he has done some great things during his short time as majority leader, but I think there is nothing that I have been more impressed with than his selection of General Alfonso Lenhardt as the Sergeant at Arms of the U.S. Senate. I hope everyone in the Senate will have the opportunity to meet this man and to recognize what a fine person Senator DASCHLE has selected.

He is going to be our protocol officer and our chief law enforcement officer. He will also be the administrative manager for most of the Senate's wide-ranging support services. We could not have a better person.

THE PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, the Senate recently passed the Patients' Bill of Rights and we are anxiously awaiting action by the House. The Patient Protection Act, or the Patients' Bill of Rights, is something we have spent a great deal of time on in the Senate.

As Senator DASCHLE indicated, it was one of our top priorities. We had a great deal of difficulty getting it through the Senate. It took us a good number of years to do that, but after 4 or 5 years of debate, we finally got a Patient Protection Act passed by the Senate. We are now waiting for the House to take similar action.

The President says he will veto it. And that is the way the legislative process works. We have to do the best we can to advance public policies that we think strengthen this country. We have done that under the leadership of Senator DASCHLE, with the cooperation of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle. We passed a real Patient Protection Act or a real Patients' Bill of Rights. Let me describe why that is important and what it does.

All of us have had lengthy debates about what is happening to health care in this country, as more and more Americans have been herded into these groups called managed care organizations. They were created, in some cases, for very good reasons, to try to reduce the cost of health care and control and contain the cost of health care.

But in recent years, the for-profit organizations that have become part of