

a unanimous consent request to accommodate debate and the vote on those three nominees.

I urge colleagues to stay in proximity of the building and the floor because these votes will happen shortly. The distinguished chair of the Judiciary Committee has reported them out, and I thank him and applaud him for his expedited work on these nominations. There will be a short debate and then there will be votes. They will not be stacked, but as I understand it, there is a request for time on each of the nominees.

We will have those votes and, hopefully, at that point, we will be able to announce further legislative business.

Mr. LEAHY. If the distinguished leader will yield, it is my understanding—and I have not had a chance to speak with the distinguished ranking member, but I hope there will be a very short time on these nominees on statements, in such a way that the leader will be able to propound, if he wishes, a request that the last two of the three votes be 10-minute votes.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, if we can accommodate all Senators with that understanding, we will make that part of the request. If Senators wish to be heard on these nominations, I hope they will let us know. Shortly, we will propound that unanimous consent request.

Mr. LOTT. If the majority leader will yield, he is not propounding a unanimous consent at this point?

Mr. DASCHLE. Shortly. Not at this point.

Mr. LOTT. The majority leader is to designate a short period of time for each one of these nominations; is that right?

Mr. DASCHLE. It was my understanding that there were requests for time on each nominee. If there is not, then it is my desire to have a period during which Senators could speak to the nominees and we would have three stacked votes.

Mr. LOTT. I thank the Senator for yielding.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to executive session to consider the nominations reported out earlier today by the Judiciary Committee: William Riley to be a Circuit

Judge for the Eighth Circuit, Sarah Hart to be the Director of the National Institute of Justice, and Robert Mueller to be the Director of the FBI.

I ask unanimous consent that I can request the yeas and nays on each with one show of seconds, and that prior to the votes on these nominees, there be 10 minutes of debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee; that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions, and that the Senate return to legislative session; and that the second and third votes in the series be 10 minutes in length.

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

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the votes on these nominations, the Senate then resume consideration of the Agriculture supplemental bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I ask that the unanimous consent request be amended to provide for a vote on Lugar amendment No. 1212, with 60 minutes of debate prior to the vote on the cloture motion.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I object to that temporarily. I need to consult with my colleagues and certainly the chair and the manager of the bill, but perhaps that is something we might be able to do. We will certainly work with the Republican leader to provide him with some information in that regard at a later date.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, further reserving my right to object, I appreciate the spirit in which Senator DASCHLE made his comments. We are going to try and find a way to get the Agriculture supplemental appropriations bill done, and done in a reasonable period of time, certainly before too late tomorrow.

I want to add to that, I appreciated what he had to say earlier tonight about his willingness to try and find a way to get completion on this bill, even tonight, so we would be able to go ahead and go to our constituents and our families tomorrow. I doubt it is going to be possible to do that, but we are still looking for a way. I appreciate his attitude, but at this point I understand his hesitancy, and I feel constrained to object to going straight to the cloture vote. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is noted.

Mr. DASCHLE. With that objection, it is likely the final vote on the nominations tonight will be the last vote, and we will then have the cloture vote tomorrow morning at 9:30.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF WILLIAM J. RILEY TO BE CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

NOMINATION OF SARAH V. HART TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

NOMINATION OF ROBERT S. MUELLER TO BE DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The nominations will be stated.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of William J. Riley, from Nebraska, to be a Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit; Sarah V. Hart, from Pennsylvania, to be Director of the National Institute of Justice; and Robert S. Mueller, III, from California, to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, we are going to have a series of votes on nominees, all of whom went through the Judiciary Committee this morning. Mr. Riley was the subject of nomination hearings before the Judiciary Committee on July 24. That was the fourth of five nomination hearings I scheduled in less than 3 weeks the Senate Judiciary Committee was allowed to have such hearings. Mr. Riley's was the fourth judicial nomination, the second nominee to a Court of Appeals considered by the Judiciary Committee since that date.

I mention this because the Senate Judiciary Committee, in the less than 4 weeks we have been allowed to have a full committee, has probably moved through judicial nominations faster than at any time in the past several years.

We will also have nominations of a Department of Justice nominee, also voted on this morning. The most important of all of these, I believe, is the nomination of Robert Mueller to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. We received his paperwork and completed it on July 24. We are now at August 2, again probably a speed record, to get this nomination before the Senate for confirmation. I thank the Senators on both sides of the aisle for making it possible to move that rapidly.

Mr. Mueller served as a Federal prosecutor in three different U.S. attorneys' offices, main Justice, in both Republican and Democratic administrations. He testified he either personally prosecuted or supervised the prosecution of just about every type of Federal