

very difficult bill that will go a long way toward solving many problems of this country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DORGAN). Who seeks recognition?

Mr. REID. 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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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 that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for a period not to exceed 10 minutes.

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

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I hope that the Senate will soon begin consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002. This bill would authorize \$343.5 billion for national defense programs, the full amount requested by the administration, including the \$18.4 billion requested by the President in his amended budget request.

The bill would also address a number of important priorities identified by the Armed Services Committee, adding significant funding for military compensation and quality of life, the readiness and transformation of the military services, and the capability of our armed forces to meet nontraditional threats, including terrorism. In light of recent events, we will obviously do more, as we already have, with the enactment of the \$40 billion emergency supplemental appropriation bill last week. However, these are no ordinary times, and the debate on this bill will be no ordinary debate. Debate on a bill like this is an inherent part of our democracy, and while our democratic institutions are stronger than any terrorist attack, in one regard we operate differently in times of national emergency. We strive to set aside our differences, and ask decent people everywhere to join forces with us to seek out and to defeat the common enemy of the civilized world.

For this reason, I am today introducing two new bills. The first bill is identical to S. 1416, as reported by the Senate Armed Services Committee in every respect but one—the removal of legislative language dealing with missile defense. The second bill, which would be deferred for debate at a later and more appropriate time, would include the missile defense language.

I strongly believe that the missile defense provisions took an appropriate step on an issue of national importance, and I was disappointed that this single area of disagreement led the Republican Members of our committee to vote against this bill that is so important to our national security.

In my view, however, this is the wrong time for divisive debate on issues of national defense. We cannot let issues like this pull us apart and undermine our common sense of national purpose in fighting terrorism. Rather, we should leave this debate to a later time and link arms against our attackers.

When we take up the defense authorization act, I hope that my colleagues will join me in putting controversial issues aside and help us move forward together to pass this bill promptly and indicate our strong and unified support for the national defense with a minimum of divisive debate.

THE HAPPY HOOLIGANS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I want to comment for a moment about some fighter pilots who are flying air missions over our nation's capital.

On Tuesday of last week, following the attack on the World Trade Center and shortly before the Pentagon was hit, a detachment of fighters who were on alert at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia were ordered airborne to protect the nation's capital. It happens that the detachment of fighters is from North Dakota.

The 119th Tactical Fighter Wing of the North Dakota Air National Guard flies F-16s. They are called the Happy Hooligans. The Happy Hooligans are folks who farm; they run drug stores; they teach school. They do a lot of things in their community, but they also are members of the National Guard who maintain and fly F-16s. More than that, the Happy Hooligans, the National Air Guard detachment in Fargo, ND, are some of the best fighter pilots in the world. In fact, the Happy Hooligans have won the William Tell Award on several occasions.

The William Tell Award is an award that is given to the fighter units that are the most proficient combat fighter pilots in the world.

So this National Guard unit from Fargo, ND, has taken their airplanes to the William Tell contest, and they have flown against the world's top combat pilots, and they have brought the William Tell Award home to Fargo, ND, as proof that they are the best fighter pilots in the world.

For some time, the Happy Hooligans have kept a permanent detachment with four F-16s, pilots, and crews on alert at Langley Air Force Base to provide air defense of the United States.

Last Tuesday morning, the attack on the World Trade Center in New York

precipitated an order for those fighters who were on alert to take to the skies. And those F-16s took to the air, but regrettably they were not yet over Washington's airspace when the airplane hit the Pentagon. They were still some minutes away.

But they then flew, as I understand it, 7 hours that day over the skies of Washington, DC, performing combat air patrol and protecting our nation's capital. And these are, as I said, men and women who belong to the National Guard but who have been awarded the distinction of being the best fighter pilots in the world.

I was enormously proud of them. I called their commander at Langley. I told them how proud I was to have the Happy Hooligans—a wonderful contingent of civilian soldiers; men and women who belong to the National Guard—flying those F-16s, providing air cover during a time of national emergency.

So, for the record, I want to say that all Americans, of course, are proud of our men and women in uniform. We grieve with them for the tragedy visited upon them when the airplane was flown into the Pentagon, just as we do for the thousands of people who have lost their lives at the World Trade Center.

And as there are brave men and women across the country who have stepped forward to say, let it be me—the firemen and the firefighters and police men and women who were climbing the stairs of the World Trade Center to try to rescue people, risking their lives to help others, just as there are so many heroes around this country during a time of need—so, too, were the Happy Hooligans in their cockpit of the F-16s, flying combat air patrols over our Nation's Capital.

Let me say to the Happy Hooligans: I salute you. I am proud of your work. And this country owes you a great debt of gratitude.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I say to my friend and colleague from North Dakota, in relation to his eloquent remarks about the Happy Hooligans, we are glad the Happy Hooligans are on our side. I knew that this training was going on. These Air Guardsmen—and possibly women as well—were very important in scrambling to protect our Nation's Capital. I know of one of those pilots actually who is from Virginia.

I am not going to get into the details because it is important for national security not to reveal what they were doing, but they were very much in harm's way. I will not get into any more detail other than to say, these pilots—the Happy Hooligans, and any others who were involved in that scrambled mission to protect our Nation's Capital, and the region here in the DC area—really were willing to give their lives in a generally undefended position.

So I am glad the Senator saluted the Happy Hooligans. I salute the Happy Hooligans and all those Air Guard pilots who scrambled to our Nation's defense, with complete risk to their lives, possibly having to give their lives to protect others.

They will be called upon again, undoubtedly, in service to our interests, our freedom, and our allies. We do salute them and their families and their employers, whether they may be in North Dakota, Virginia, Minnesota, Wisconsin, or anywhere else in this country because they are patriots. We have all seen the patriotism that defines our country.

TRIBUTE TO THE PAGES

Mr. DAYTON. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to our pages, who serve us day after day with extraordinary dedication—as do all of our staff—but especially for their exemplary performance last week. They continued their service on the Senate floor in the midst of crisis that had even adults in some alarm. Not only did they return to their work after the horrific events of last Tuesday, September 11, but also again last Thursday.

As you recall, Madam President, that evening the Senate Chamber had to be evacuated because of a bomb threat. One of our distinguished Senators said it was the first time the Senate floor had been cleared in his 25 years of service. A security guard told me it was the first time in the 33 years of his service that the Senate Chamber had been cleared. Yet that very night our pages were back working as scheduled to conclude the Senate's business, and they returned again last Friday. Today, they are once again assembled, and are working hard on our behalf.

For people of any age to respond with this kind of courage and dedication in this situation is exemplary. For these young men and women—teenagers who are high school students—to have shown this kind of courage is just extraordinary.

I ask unanimous consent that their names be printed in the RECORD. I wish to pay tribute on behalf of all the Senate to them for their dedication and their courage. They are truly outstanding young Americans.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

UNITED STATES SENATE PAGES—FALL 2001

Katherine Amestoy, Adam Anthony, Vic Bailey, Danielle Bailey, DeAntai Box, Taryn Brice, Kevin Burleson, Elizabeth Candido, Jennifer Cohen, Eliza Coleman, Meredith Freed, Jason Frerichs, Patrick Gibson, Jena Gross,

Jennifer Holden, Joe Kippley, Clayton LaForge, Jessica Lussier, Ryan Majerus, Scott Moore, Michael Moran, Meagan Rose, Katie Ruedebusch, Christina Valentine, Antonio Ward, William Warren, George White, Jay Wright.

IN MEMORY OF CONGRESSMAN FLOYD SPENCE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, last month, the U.S. Congress lost one of the finest public servants I have had the honor to know. As my colleagues may know, Congressman Floyd Spence, who represented South Carolina's 2nd District, passed away on August 16, 2001. Floyd Spence may no longer walk the halls of Congress, but the countless contributions he made over the last three decades will continue to influence South Carolina and this great Nation.

Floyd was a humble public servant who was proud of his modest background, often introducing himself as "Floyd Spence, dirt farmer." He was a principled man who could disarm anyone with his friendly disposition and his distinct chuckle. It was difficult, if not impossible, for anyone to dislike Floyd.

Too often we take life for granted, but not Floyd Spence. As a beneficiary of two organ transplants, he knew too well he had been given not just a second, but a third change at life. As a result, Floyd lived life to the fullest, dedicating it to the service of others and his Nation.

Floyd's generosity was demonstrated by his willingness to lend an ear to those who faced the frightening prospect of a transplant, or the even scarier possibility of not receiving an organ in time. Having faced these fears himself, he welcomed the opportunity to comfort individuals from across the United States who called to ask him about his own experience.

My friend, ever the Southern gentleman, leaves behind a legacy of dedicated public service. For almost fifty years he loyally served the people of South Carolina. Floyd was also an outspoken advocate for our Armed Services and had served as Chairman for the House Armed Services Committee. As a retired Naval Reserve Officer, he recognized the importance of a strong military and worked tirelessly to ensure that the needs of our Armed Services were addressed.

He was a true patriot, a dedicated public servant, and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Floyd is an inspiration to all, and my heartfelt sympathy goes out to his devoted wife Debbie, and his fine sons, David, Zach, Ben, and Caldwell, and to his dedicated staff.

CONFIRMATION OF BRUCE COLE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to express my strong support for the nomination of Bruce Cole to be Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Dr. Cole is a noted art historian and a

Distinguished Professor at Indiana University. He served as Visiting Professor at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and previously held the Hohenberg Chair of Excellence at the University of Memphis. Dr. Cole is a former member of the National Council on the Humanities, and he will bring impressive stature and experience to the Humanities Endowment.

We have been fortunate over the past three decades to have many distinguished academics and humanists lead this agency. I believe that Dr. Cole will serve in that tradition and be an impressive leader for this important agency.

In conjunction with the consideration of his nomination by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, I submitted a number of questions to Dr. Cole, and I wanted to share his answers with my colleagues. I ask unanimous consent that they may be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

QUESTIONS BY SENATOR KENNEDY FOR DR. BRUCE COLE

GENERAL

1. Do you support the mission of the National Endowment for the Humanities and believe that there is a federal role in support of the humanities?

Answer: Yes. I believe firmly that the NEH plays a crucial, and necessary role in our democracy. Although the NEH is a small agency, its impact is great. As the only federal program dedicated exclusively to the national dissemination of the humanities, it affirms our government's support for the humanities. This support is proper because the humanities make us aware of our shared human condition and enlarge our worldview. The humanities are the principal means of transmitting our shared democratic values to future generations. As a pivotal civilizing force in human life, the humanities are essential to the well-being of any democracy and all its citizenry.

The importance of the humanities is recognized in the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act establishing the NEH. This act states: "That a high civilization must not limit its efforts to science and technology alone but must give full value and support to the other great branches of scholarly and cultural activity in order to achieve a better understanding of the past, a better analysis of the present, and a better view of the future." The legislation also states that "democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens" and that "the study of the humanities requires constant dedication and devotion." These words remain as true and meaningful today as when they were written more than three and a half decades ago. If confirmed I hope to serve the nation by furthering the NEH's mission to make the humanities part of the lives of all Americans.

2. Are there any circumstances under which you would support the elimination of the agency?

Answer: No.

3. Due to budget cuts and the impact of inflation, the NEH's spending power is about 30% of what it was in 1980. This decline in funding has reduced the agency's reach and