Following this vote, the Senate will resume consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill under the direction of Senators Levin and Warner.

Rollcall votes are expected on the amendments to the DOD bill all afternoon Monday.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment following the statement during morning business by the Senator from Alabama, Mr. SESSIONS.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator is recognized.

DEFENSE BUDGETS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, we have for the most part today been dealing with the Defense authorization bill. As a member of the Armed Services Committee, it is something we wrestled with for some time. We realize how tight our budget is, and I thought it would be important for those Americans who care about those things, that remnant out there, that we give them some perspective as to where we are, what this authorization bill would mean, and how it would affect our Armed Forces.

In the early 1990s, our defense budget was as high as $326 billion, as I recall, well over $300 billion. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, President Bush commenced a decline in that budget. He had projected it out over a certain number of years and then it began to flatten out at a fairly substantial rate over $300 billion.

What happened was, in our glee over the collapse of the Soviet Union, we allowed that budget to continue downward. We reached as low as $236 billion. I believe, in the mid-1990s, $20 billion more or less than former President Bush had proposed, and as a result we reduced our personnel very rapidly.

We had problems in a number of areas funding our budget, and as a result, the military began to suffer. In particular, what suffered was our plans to recapitalize defense in America. I am talking about ships and planes and equipment that is pretty expensive. We paid the electric bills. We trained our men and women in uniform. We paid their salaries. We did the things we needed to do, but as one naval officer said, we created a bow wave out in front of the ship of increased capitalization needs that we have been doing that for some years.

Gradually, we made a few increases since I have been in the Senate in the last 3 years, an increase in our defense budget, but it has not been much.

President Bush ran on the promise that he would do more for defense. He said, “Help is on the way.” We remember that phrase.

We do indeed, this year, have a Defense appropriations bill that shows the level of support that we are living well over a decade. I know the President pro tempore is so familiar with these numbers, there is no need for me to recall them for you. We made some progress, and as I read this budget, this authorization bill, we will take defense spending from $296 billion last year to $328. If you count the supplemental of $6 billion, we have a $35 billion increase in defense, which amounts to a little over around 10 percent of the budget.

I thought we would have more impact, but I have not seen it. It strikes me that presumably the money has gone to do the things we need to do. We promised and committed to higher pay and better medical care, as we promised our men and women in uniform. They received that, and they are pleased with it. Retention and recruitment and morale is up, for which we can certainly celebrate, but it has left us not nearly as much as we had hoped. We would have to begin to do better about capital investments.

For example, it was not too many years ago we were looking for a 600-ship Navy. We are now down to around 315 ships. We have ships going out of service every year because of age and lack of serviceability, and the number of ships coming on are less. So at the present rate, we can expect our fleet to fall well below 300. Maybe that is wise. I doubt it. I think we are getting a bit thin. I say that simply to say the money is not there in this budget to do what we need.

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I served as the ranking member on the Sea Power Subcommittee and dealt with those numbers, along with Senator Kennedy, and we did the best we could with the ways we had to allocate, but we are not where we need to be in shipbuilding.

So now we find ourselves in a war against terrorism. I think it is causing us to reevaluate what we have done and reduce our personnel very rapidly.

I believe that was done. I can support this bill as I understand it today, and we will probably vote next Tuesday. We will have made a step in the right direction. Our challenge, of course, with $20 billion more in defense, is to confront terrorism around the world.

Our distinguished President pro tem, the ranking Republican on the committee, for working together to reach an accord at this critical time in our country that I can support at this time, and that was not easy. We had some differences of opinion, and when the bill came out of committee on a partisan vote, 13–12, we were distressed about that. In the days that have gone by since this terrorist attack, I think we all realized it was necessary we should reach an agreement on how to proceed.

I believe that was done. I can support this bill as I understand it today, and we will probably vote next Tuesday. We will have made a step in the right direction.

Our challenge, of course, with $20 billion more in defense, is to confront terrorism around the world.

Our distinguished President pro tempore, Mr. President, is one of the best in this Senate, probably one of the best in the United States. I thought I would share tonight a little bit of Roman history, Apian’s Roman history, as someone referred to me, what that country did after they defeated the Romans.

This is the situation they faced: Pirates were developing throughout the Mediterranean. It became unsafe for Roman ships to sail. According to Appian, in a very short time these pirates in number to tens of thousands. They dominated not only the eastern waters but the whole Mediterranean to the Pillars of Hercules.
September 21, 2001

They now even vanquished some of the Roman generals in naval engagements, and among others the praetor of Sicily on their side.

No sea could be navigated in safety, and land remained untilled for want of commercial intercourse. The city of Rome felt this evil most keenly, her subjects being distressed and herself suffering grievously from hunger by reason of her own populousness. But it appeared to her to be a great and difficult task to destroy so large a force of seafaring men scattered everywhere on land and sea, with no fixed possession to encumber their flight, sailing out from no particular country or any known places, having no property or anything to call their own, but only what they might chance to light upon. Thus, the unexampled nature of this war, and the manner and way in which they had and had nothing tangible or visible about it, caused perplexity and fear.

When the Romans could no longer endure the damage or the disgrace they made Gnaeus Pompey, who was then their man of greatest repute, commander by law for 3 years, with absolute power over the whole sea within the Pillars of Hercules, and of the land of a distance of 400 stades from the coast to coast. They sent letters to all kings, rulers, peoples and cities, they should aid Pompey in all ways. They gave him the power to raise troops and to collect money from the provinces, and they furnished a large Army from their own muster-roll, and all the ships they had, and money to the amount of 6,000 Attic talents—

Perhaps the President would know how much that was; apparently it was perhaps the President would know how much that was; apparently it was perhaps the President would know how much that was; apparently it was perhaps the President would know how much that was; apparently it was.

So great and difficult did they consider the task of overcoming such great forces, dispersed over so wide a sea, hiding easily in so many places, that appears as if the task he had undertaken against him was not easy one, became straightforward alarmed, abandoned their attacks upon the towns they were besieging, and fled to their accustomed peaks and inlets. Thus the sea was cleared by Pompey forthwith without a fight, and the pirates were everywhere subdued at their several locations.

According to Appian’s history, whereas it was expected to take 6 years to win this war because they were so united, so determined, and so committed, within a matter of days the war was won, 10,000 of the pirates were killed and the rest surrendered.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

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According to Appian’s history, whereas it was expected to take 6 years to win this war because they were so united, so determined, and so committed, within a matter of days the war was won, 10,000 of the pirates were killed and the rest surrendered.

I don’t know and don’t expect we can accomplish this much in dealing with our modern-day terrorist pirates, but I like the way they set about to do it. They recognized their nation was threatened and jeopardized, and when the disgrace could be stood no more, they took action to defend their just interest, and did so with a commitment that was total and complete, and they set about it and were successful far more quickly than people thought possible.

I don’t know if this will occur more quickly than we think possible, but I know one thing: If we commit ourselves to it, just as the Romans, we can succeed. And even though these people move about and seem to have no place they call their own, and are difficult to locate, they can be located, they can be prevented from attacking, and can be defeated. I hope and pray we will succeed in that.

I am honored to be a Member of this Senate—not the Roman Senate but this Senate. It is a great Senate, as the President of the Senate is wont to remind us—the greatest since the Roman Senate. I believe, united as we are today, we can succeed in eliminating these modern-day terrorists who threaten our world, our prosperity, and our liberty.

I am honored to have the opportunity to speak tonight, and I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2001

The President pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in adjournment until 12 noon, Monday, September 24, 2001.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:43 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 24, 2001, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate September 21, 2001:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MICHELLE VAN CLEAVE, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN AS- SISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE BRIAN E. SHIBRADO.

WILLIAM WINKENWORDE, JR., OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE SUSAN R. KIRBY.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JOHN H. MARSHBRED, II, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY, VICE NEIL P. LANE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WILLIAM B. BROWNFIELD, OF TEXAS, A CAREER MEM- BER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MIN-ISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE ENVOY EXTRAORDI- NARY AND PLAINSPRINGENL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE.

LARRY MILES, OF IOWA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE, TO BE AMBASSADOR TO THE PROMISED STATES OF MEXICO.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

EMILY B. TURLE LEE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE ENVIRON- MENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE KENNETH C. Q. RIVERA, RESIGNED.

THE JUDICIARY

CLAY D. LAND, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEOR- GIA, VICE J. ROBERT ELLIOTT RETIRED.