fact that they are willing to risk their life every day to protect us.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1555, INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 167 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 167

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1555) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered by title rather than by section. Each title shall be considered as read. Points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute for failure to comply with clause 7 of rule XVI are waived. No amendment to the committee in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII and except pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. Each amendment so printed may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed or his designee and shall be considered as read. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendments the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

□ 1100

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS). The gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my colleague and friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate on this issue only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 167 is a modified open rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 1555, the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2000. What makes the rule modified is the requirement that Members wishing to offer amendments were asked to have them preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD prior to the consideration of this bill by the House. Notice of this restriction was given to Members last week prior to the filing of the report on this bill, and at the time of the filing, when we asked for the UC, we also reminded Members of the requirement.

This requirement makes good sense, given the unique nature of the matters covered by the bill. In the past, we have found it works well to allow the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence the opportunity to review potential amendments ahead of time in order to work with Members to ensure that no classified information is inadvertently disclosed during our floor debate. This is not about shutting out any debate on the bill but, rather, about an extra degree of caution and making sure sensitive material is properly protected.

As is customary, the rule provides 1 hour of general debate divided equally between the chairman and the ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. DIXON), of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The rule makes in order the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence as an original bill for the purpose of amendment. The amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered by title, and each title shall be considered as read.

The rule further waives points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute for failure to comply with clause 7 of Rule XVI, which prohibits nongermane amendments. This is necessary because, again, the introduced bill was more narrow in scope, as it usually is, than the product reported out by the committee.

Specifically, this provision in the rule pertains to title V of the reported bill regarding the Freedom of Information Act exemption for the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, NIMA, which is, I believe, a noncontroversial provision which makes a technical correction.

As I mentioned earlier, the rule makes in order only those amendments that have been preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and provides that each amendment that has been so printed may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed or his designee. Each amendment shall be considered as read.

The rule allows the Chair of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill and to reduce voting time to 5 minutes on a postponed questioned, if a vote follows a 15-minute vote. Nothing new there.

Finally, the rule provides the traditional motion to recommit with or without instructions. Again, a guarantee for the minority.

Mr. Speaker, this is certainly a fair rule and one without any controversy that I am aware of, but I am aware that the ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. DIXON), my colleague, friend and close working partner on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, had hoped that we could delay consideration of this bill until next week, to give Members even more time to familiarize themselves with the provisions of this bill, especially its classified components. I know that every effort was made to be sensitive to his request. I agreed with it. But given forces beyond any one Member's control, particularly relating to other legislation that is still under discussion, we in fact were asked to be on the floor with this bill today.

That said, I encourage Members to vote for this fair rule and to support the underlying legislation, which I think is well prepared.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 1555, the Intelligence Authorization for fiscal year 2000. I would, however, like to make the House aware of the concerns raised by the ranking member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence with respect to the timing of the consideration of this bill and the preprinting requirement for amendments.

The gentleman from California (Mr. DIXON) does not oppose the preprinting of amendments for this bill. And, in fact, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is generally supportive of such a requirement because of the sensitive nature of much of the bill and the need to protect its classified contents. And, in fact, Mr. Speaker, the House has considered intelligence authorizations under this kind of rule for the past 6 years. What concerns the gentleman from California, as well as the Democrats on the Committee on Rules, is the timing of the consideration of this important legislation.

Since the House conducted no business on Monday, few Members were here to read the classified portions of the bill in order that they might determine if any amendments might be appropriate. Mr. Speaker, we do not object to this rule, only to the timing of the consideration of the bill and would, as has the gentleman from California, ask that the leadership consider giving

Members ample time in the future to examine this legislation prior to its consideration on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, the bill itself is not controversial and was, in fact, reported by a unanimous vote. The funding levels in the bill are approximately 1 percent above the administration request for the activities of the intelligence community, but the committee bill focuses on the future needs of our intelligence capabilities and the priorities associated with those needs in a rapidly changing but increasingly dangerous world.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague from Florida (Mr. GOSS) for his work on this important matter.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT).

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I have one concern with the bill. However, I will support the bill and I want to commend the efforts of the authors of the bill.

I have been concerned about a massive trade deficit in America, and I am concerned about espionage as far as it relates to our patents, our technology, our industry, and our trade secrets. And with that, I would like to see that we can buoy up this bill in that particular regard.

I would like the Members of Congress to realize that there is a projected $250 billion trade deficit this year. Japan and China are taking $5 billion apiece, $10 billion a month out of our economy, or a quarter of a trillion dollars a year.

I am pleased that the committee will work with me on this issue, and I want to thank our distinguished leader from Texas for yielding me this time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I urge favorable consideration of this resolution to support this fair bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAKING IN ORDER TRAFICANT AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1555, INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Traficant amendment to H.R. 1555 at the desk be made in order to the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of title III (page 10, after line 2), insert the following new section:

SEC. 304. REPORT ON EFFECTS OF FOREIGN ESPIONAGE ON UNITED STATES TRADE SECRETS.

By not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of Central Intelligence shall submit to Congress a report describing the effects of espionage against the United States, conducted by or on behalf of other nations, on United States trade secrets, patents, and technology development. The study shall include an analysis of the effects of such espionage on the trade deficit of the United States and on the employment rate in the United States.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. WILSON). Pursuant to House Resolution 167 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1555.

The Chair designates the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, and requests the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) to assume the chair temporarily.

□ 1110

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1555) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes, with Mr. ROGERS, Chairman pro tempore, in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. DIXON) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS).

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to bring to the attention of the House H.R. 1555, the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2000, backed by the unanimous bipartisan recommendation of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

I would say that our committee worked diligently to conduct rigorous oversight of the programs and the activities that fall within our jurisdiction and, indeed, they are extensive responsibilities. We held numerous full committee hearings and briefings, backed up by literally hundreds of staff briefings about specific programs and items in this budget.

As Members know, we are required by law to provide an annual authorization for any intelligence or intelligence-related activity. That is because of the seriousness with which we take our oversight responsibility, making sure we understand what is going on in the intelligence community.

Because of the sensitivity of the material we deal with within this bill, and its direct implications for our national security, many of the specifics of our work and the recommendations we have made must remain secret. However, as I announced upon the filing of this bill, the entirety of our work is available to any Member wishing to review it in the committee's secure facility upstairs. Because of this arrangement and the reality of Members' schedules, all of us on the committee recognize the special responsibility that we have assumed and the trust our colleagues place in us.

I am pleased to report that we have had Members upstairs pursuing the opportunity to understand all the details, sensitive as they are, in this bill.

We know that we have the added burden of assuring our colleagues and the public that the programs and projects in this bill are worthwhile, legitimate, well-designed, properly managed, and critical to our national security. Our colleagues and our constituents trust us to conduct our oversight carefully, thoroughly and with a critical eye. I believe we have done our job, and I hope we have done it well.

Mr. Chairman, this is a solid bill. It recommends funding for the Nation's intelligence community at a rate slightly less than 1 percent higher than what the President requested. This is a very modest increase and is, frankly, the bare minimum needed to continue our effort of rebuilding our capabilities started in the 105th, and ensuring that we are best positioned to meet the diverse challenges that the century holds for American interests, as varied as they are.

We have, for the last few years, been on a course toward that goal and we are making progress, but we have had to reverse a very serious inherited trend of decline and atrophy in the core programs of some of our intelligence capabilities; of signals intelligence, of human intelligence, of imagery intelligence, of analysis and covert action.

□ 1115

These are areas where we need help. These are disciplines that require long-term investment and consistent commitment. We cannot simply turn them on and off like a light switch. We have for too long taken shortcuts and underfunded and undervalued our intelligence capabilities, and our entire defense posture, as a matter of fact.

We see this in stark terms in the world today, currently in Kosovo, but also in Iraq, North Korea, Iran, China, India, Pakistan, perhaps a number of places in the African continent, just to mention a string of other hot spots that have not yet flared up but could at any moment. I know Members can fill in their own blanks.

I know that some believe and state that we have no more use for intelligence, that investment in eyes, ears and brains has become unnecessary because the world is at peace. I adamantly reject that point of view. Intelligence is arguably the best investment