

Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the cumulative report on rescissions and deferrals for fiscal year 1995; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, to the Committee on Appropriations, to the Committee on the Budget, to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works, to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, and to the Committee on Small Business.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Treaty Doc. 102-15 Treaty With Panama on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (Exec. Rept. 104-3)

#### TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE-RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT

*Resolved*, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Republic of Panama On Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters. With Annexes and Appendices, signed at Panama on April 11, 1991. The Senate's advice and consent is subject to the following two provisos, which shall not be included in the instrument of ratification to be signed by the President:

Nothing in this Treaty requires or authorizes legislation, or other action, by the United States of America prohibited by the Constitution of the United States as interpreted by the United States.

Pursuant to the rights of the United States under this Treaty to deny requests which prejudice its essential public policy or interest, the United States shall deny a request for assistance when the Central Authority, after consultation with all appropriate intelligence, anti-narcotic, and foreign policy agencies, has specific information that a senior government official who will have access to information to be provided under this Treaty is engaged in or facilitates the production or distribution of illegal drugs.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. DODD):

S. 761. A bill to improve the ability of the United States to respond to the international terrorist threat; read the first time.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 762. A bill to implement General Accounting Office recommendations regarding the use of commercial software to detect billing code abuse in Medicare claims processing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. DODD):

S. 761. A bill to improve the ability of the United States to respond to the international terrorist threat; read the first time.

#### THE OMNIBUS COUNTERTERRORISM ACT OF 1995

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, since the terrible bombing in Oklahoma City more than 2 weeks ago, we have been forced to consider what the society should do in self-defense against potentially deadly maniacs who think that killing defenseless people is a way to send a political message or effect political change.

This is an enduring challenge for a democracy. We have faced it before. There is no easy answer.

We cannot afford to give the terrorists what they want to achieve—the subversion of our free institutions—in the effort to prevent their terrorist acts. But we cannot remain complacent in the face of determined threats either.

The President has sent to Congress his proposal to give Federal law enforcement additional resources and tools to use in combating domestic and international terrorism on American soil. It includes commonsense expansion of FBI investigative authorities in counterterrorism cases, such as access to credit reports and travel and hotel records, which are routinely available to State and local law enforcement authorities in criminal investigations.

It will speed the process of adding chemical taggants to explosives, as well as moving more aggressively into taggant and related explosives research.

It will expand the FBI's ability to use trace-and-track devices and pen registers to capture the phone numbers dialed from or coming in to a particular telephone. It does not abandon the requirement of American law that no phone may be tapped without an explicit warrant, issued only when there is probable cause to suspect criminal activity.

The package of proposals includes added penalties and some broader Federal felony offenses, whose purpose is to conform the law with respect to explosives to the existing law that covers firearms.

Coupled with the President's earlier antiterrorism bill directed at international terrorism, this is a sound step to respond to a national threat without throwing overboard the civil rights of law-abiding citizens.

The consensus of those who work in this field is that, although the cold war is over, the war against terrorism is just beginning. Experts make some chilling—and compelling—arguments.

In the century preceding the Oklahoma City bombing, although terrorist groups were numerous, and although horrible murders, kidnappings, and

other crimes by them were frequent, there were fewer than a dozen terrorist attacks that cost more than 100 lives.

There is reason to fear, according to experts, that this trend is shifting. Where once terrorists would take hostages and threaten the lives of 1 or 2 or 20 people if their demands were not met, they no longer issue specific demands. They take fewer and fewer hostages.

Instead, they attack more soft targets, where civilian casualties are bound to be higher. They are aiming less at a particular demand and more at terrorizing the entire society.

They build more car bombs and undertake more suicide attacks; they attack civilians in crowds—airplanes, subways, and office buildings. They make fewer explicit demands, but their broader demands are more apocalyptic.

If this trend continues, instead of a cold war atmosphere of threat and counterthreat, of massive nuclear stockpiles poised to strike each other's targets, we face the prospect of random violence—impossible to predict, impossible to counter, impossible to explain.

A civilized society can live with many fears. We lived with the fear of nuclear holocaust for almost 50 years, yet our society became freer throughout that time. The great advances in civil rights and protections against Government were postwar.

But no civilized society will survive the threat of random terror. It cannot. We must be able to feel secure as we travel to our workplaces each day, as we sit at our desks or man our service counters—that we will end the day predictably, by going home, making dinner, performing the normal pattern of tasks and duties we face.

If we ever reach the point where randomized terror can paralyze us, can make Americans distrust each other—distrust the safety of the next few hours—the terrorists will have won, because we will be what they want us to be: an atomized nation, without community, without security, without anything except fear for immediate individual survival.

That is where these people want to take us. We have to combat this, without becoming savages, without losing our perspective, without succumbing to paralyzing fear.

It is not going to be easy. If the experts are right, and apocalyptic terrorism is what the future holds, we will face challenges our system has never before been forced to face. We will have to ask ourselves questions that we have never before raised.

A growing number of terrorist groups believe they are fighting a holy war. That change has changed the nature of what they are prepared to do, the risks they themselves are prepared to run, and the damage they are prepared to inflict.

This change presents us, as a society, with a challenge as well. Americans are of diverse faiths, but we are among the