

always looks on. Bystanders or hostages: that is what the "peacekeepers really are.

It cannot have escaped the notice of our policymakers that the U.N. is providing cover for the Serbs, except that the U.N. is providing cover for our policymakers, too. It saves them from the prospect of action. That is why the plight of the U.N. stirs them more than the plight of Bosnia. And nobody is less stirred by the plight of Bosnia than the aloof Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who put an early damper on international outrage when he called this a "rich man's war." The Bosnians, he said, were less deserving than those under siege, by hunger and by arms, in Africa. And the United States followed the secretary general's recommendation. We sent troops to Somalia and we sent no troops to Bosnia.

It is hard to think of a major crisis since the Second World War in which the president of the United States has wielded less moral and political authority. There are 22,470 U.N. troops in Bosnia, from eighteen countries. Britain has 3,565 men under arms; France has 3,835; Pakistan has 2,978. The United States has none, and the Clinton administration, the same administration that denounces the Republicans as isolationists, regularly boasts about it. In such circumstances, it is impossible for the president of the United States to lead. But he is not chafing. He does not wish to lead. He isn't terribly interested. When his national security advisers met last week in the West Wing, he stayed in the East Wing. He did tell a reporter, though, that "the taking of hostages, as well as the killing of civilians, is totally wrong and inappropriate and it should stop." And also that "I would ask him [Boris Yeltsin] to call the Serbs and tell them to quit it, and tell them to behave themselves."

To behave themselves. And if that fails, to go to their room. Does Clinton grasp that there is evil in the world? And does he understand that he is not the governor of the United States? It is a requirement of his job that he care about matters beyond our borders, matters such as war and genocide and the general collapse of America's role in the world, matters that will not gain him a point in the polls. The joke on Clinton is that he is almost certainly about to be hoist by his own isolationism. The result of the Bosnia policy that was designed to spare the United States all costs in lives and dollars may be a U.N. "extraction operation" that will require the deployment of many thousands of American troops and the expense of many millions of American dollars. And Bosnia will have been destroyed. Nice work.

It is time to conclude this sinister farce. The U.N. should get out of the way. Its forces must be withdrawn, so that the Serbs may no longer hide behind them, and then the Bosnians must be armed, so that they can fight their own fight, which is all that they are asking to do. Withdraw and strike, lift and strike. Obviously this is not as simple as it sounds. The withdrawal of the U.N. will mean war; and unless NATO provides protection from the air, for the departing U.N. troops and for the training of Bosnian troops, the U.N. withdrawal will expose the Bosnians to the Serbs as brusquely as it will expose the Serbs to the Bosnians, and Bosnia will fall. But there already is war and Bosnia already is falling. Anyway, Bill Clinton and Boutros Boutros-Ghali and John Major and the rest are not keeping the U.N. in Bosnia to spare it horror. They can live with its horror. They are keeping the U.N. in Bosnia to spare themselves a reckoning with their own failure. For it is they who ordained that Bosnia become a place where it is always too late for justice.

THE ANTITERRORISM BILL

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I did not get the opportunity to respond to the majority leader prior to the time he made his statement on Bosnia.

Let me say I am disappointed that the majority leader would come to the floor and make the statement that Democrats do not care about what happened in Oklahoma. I hope he does not mean that. I hope he did not really mean to say that, because that is wrong and in my view it is uncalled for.

We care just as deeply as anybody on the other side about what happened in Oklahoma. I hope we do not have to hear a statement like that again on the Senate floor. We care just as deeply about responding to this issue, and we will respond to it. But we also care very deeply about our right to offer some fundamental amendments to this bill.

Let me remind everyone this bill did not go through committee. This bill was not the subject of hearings. We went straight to the floor, brought this bill up on Friday, offered some amendments and took a week's break. If we care so much about this legislation, why in the world did we have to take a week off before we came back? Now we are on it, and this is the third day.

Mr. President, I have worked on our side to bring the list of amendments down, as I said I would. We have gone from over 60 amendments to, as I understand it, 15 or 16. We have come to a point where we can finish this entire bill—and we can stay in as long as necessary to do it—in less than 12 hours. We will get all of the amendments up. We will have votes on them and very short time agreements. We will finish this bill tomorrow at whatever time we want to. We can do it.

Everybody can respond. We can make our political points on both sides, if we have to, but we are going to complete action on this bill.

But let me tell you, if we do not have a right to offer amendments on this bill, of if in some way we are prevented from doing so tomorrow and the next day, and this bill is pulled from the floor, I want to put everybody on notice that we will offer it to the telecommunications bill and every other single piece of legislation that comes on this floor until we resolve it. So this is not going to go away. Our rights are going to be protected. I want everybody to understand that.

So, Mr. President, I hope we can work through this and I believe we can. I hope that in the course of the next hour or two, we can work through this, come up with an agreement, resolve our differences on procedure here, and finally come to a point where we can vote on final passage. We can do it. We need to work together.

I know patience is strained on both sides. But I believe we have to accommodate Senators' rights here, and a Senator has a right to offer an amendment on this bill, as we have attempted

to do. We are down to a short list, and I believe we ought to work through the amendments on it.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, well, we had hearings on wiretap authority, and we had general hearings before the FBI Director Freeh. We have had numerous hearings on habeas corpus reform. We have had hearings on alien terrorist removal and posse comitatus. We have had a lot of hearings. But, again, I remind the Democratic leader that the President of the United States, who happens to be a Democrat, wants to get this bill passed. Does he want 16 amendments or 26 amendments or 36 amendments? He wants the bill passed.

You cannot have it both ways. You cannot criticize Members on weekends for not passing a bill, saying there are too many amendments, and saying he wants to cooperate and have 16 amendments. Members do not need 16. They probably do not need six. They probably do not need five amendments.

This happens to be your administration, your President, who is taking credit for the antiterrorism bill, and the Democrats will not let it pass because they have to have all of their amendments. They have to have 16 amendments. Why do they need 16 amendments?

This is an antiterrorism bill, not a gun bill and not any other kind of bill. We ought to pass it. We ought to pass it in the next couple of hours. We probably will not. We probably will not pass it at all. We will have a cloture vote tomorrow. If the Democrats vote against cloture, that is fine. Then they will have spoken. They will have made a statement on how they feel about antiterrorism legislation.

If the President were on their side saying, "Gentleman, we have to have all these amendments," I can understand. But he is on our side. He is on our side. He said he was last night on Larry King. He wants habeas corpus reform. He wants what is in this bill. He wants the terrorism bill. "The majority leader is right saying there are too many amendments." We have gone back to our people and said they cannot offer these amendments. Offer them some other time.

We will be in session for a long, long time. I was told we should have stayed here during the week. Do not give me that stuff. Sixty-seven amendments offered by the Democrats, and I was told by the manager on the other side they would work all these things out over the recess. In fact, I asked the question. Let Members not come back on Monday and say we just got back from recess, we have not made any headway.

It is very frustrating. I know the Senate is a different place. I know one Senator can delay as long as they can, and two or three Senators can delay for days and days.

This is something that the President of the United States wants very badly. It is something I assume that the Democrats want badly. If they want it

badly, they will stop offering amendments. These amendments have nothing to do with terrorism. They were not in the President's bill.

Why not get on with it and pass the bill? We have a terrorism bill. We can take care of habeas corpus and go to final passage or agree on two or three amendments on a side and get it done.

We have taken the taggants, that amendment that the President was concerned about. We worked it out. Worked it out on both sides. We accepted that amendment and another amendment that we thought had merit, extending the statute of limitations from 3 to 5 years. We have done that. We will not continue this game. I do not care whether they offer it on telecommunications or not. That is a right they have.

The time is running out. The time is running out for this bill to be on the floor. Make no mistake about it. If they want to do business, we will do business. If not, it is fine with this Senator.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, let me just briefly respond to a couple of points.

First of all, the majority leader filed cloture before the first amendment was offered. I do not know what kind of good faith effort there had been to try to work on both sides to accommodate the interests that Senators have with regard to amending this bill. It did not appear to be much.

Second, as I said, there is a very limited timeframe within which all of these amendments could be disposed of. Let no one confuse the issue. We are not trying to prolong debate on this bill. We are not trying to keep it from coming to final passage. We can do that tonight. We can do that before 8 o'clock tomorrow morning.

All we have to do is work through the amendments. We have already agreed to a time limit. Indeed, we can have it both ways. We can accommodate all of those Senators who specifically said, "I have a very important amendment relevant to this legislation, and I will do it in a very short timeframe, and I want to vote for final passage."

So, it is very clear. No one should be confused about it. No one is trying to delay it. If it is pulled, we will have plenty more opportunities to vote on this legislation on whatever other bills come up before the Senate in the coming weeks.

I yield the floor.

Mr. BIDEN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMPSON). The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I realize the majority leader is very busy, and he has a lot of pieces of legislation he has to deal with and a lot of other matters relating to national responsibilities and the Republican Party.

However, I want to point out to him, he keeps talking about 60-some amendments. It is down to 16 amendments, No. 1. No. 2, of the 16 amendments,

there are only 4 amendments that there is a problem with here. The four amendments relate to guns.

That is what this is about. The President wanted wiretapping authority in this. We have an amendment for that. The other side does not want to get tough on those terrorists and allow the Government to wiretap them. I understand that. It is a civil liberties issue from their perspective. I understand it. But the President wanted it.

The President wanted posse comitatus, but apparently some of the posesses out West do not want posse comitatus change, so we will have a vote on it.

The President also wants it in this bill. He wanted some authority relating to immigration that the other side does not want. It was in his bill. They took it out. I understand. That is one of the amendments in here.

There are four amendments, five amendments, with regard to time agreements—the longest 90 minutes, the shortest 20—relating to habeas corpus. The President says he wants habeas corpus. He did not say he wants the Republican habeas corpus; he says he wants habeas corpus. We want to give the Senate the one the President wants, not the one the Republicans want. We want to debate it.

So, look, the amendments we are talking about here, all of which have time agreements on them, all of which, on our side, have time agreements on them, are amendments—but for four of them—that the President does want or wants a version of them different than the one in the Republican bill.

So I would like to ask this question: Why do we not have a cloture vote on those four gun amendments, because that is what this is about. Why not have a cloture vote on those? And why do we not move on with the rest of these? And if we get cloture on those four amendments, fine. No problem. They are gone. I am sure they will come back. But they are gone. I do not want them on this bill. I did not want any of these on this bill.

But we should get something straight here. This is an interesting way to proceed. There was a bill that was brought up, not out of committee—which I understand and I am not being critical of—and it gets brought up on the floor, everybody not having not had a chance to read it, because it is a Republican bill that was not finalized on the day we started to debate it, and I understand that, too.

Everybody put all these place holder amendments out there. There were 60, 70, 80, 100, I do not know what the number was, a humongous number. So we stayed here late 1 day, Senator HATCH and I, to get a finite list so no one could add more amendments. So we get a finite list and we list them. And then the leader comes back before we voted on any of them and he files a cloture petition.

Now, I realize this will be lost on the public, and I understand this is inside

baseball. I understand this is the Senate. I hope the press understands it, though. Then the leader looks down and says, "OK, you now have shown me your list. You have agreed this is a limited list. Now I want to go down the list. I don't like that one, that one, that one, that one, so I'm filing cloture. Gotcha."

Look, whether there is a time agreement, we walked out of here and came out of a caucus. I did what I committed to do. And the leader did what he committed to do. I came out here and I said, "OK, here is a time agreement with these four. Can we move them right away?"

I thought the Republican side was for it because they printed up a unanimous-consent agreement. All of a sudden, boom. We cannot debate them. Or we cannot vote on them. We have a Kerrey amendment. The President wanted the ATF involved. Apparently, the ATF is like holding up a cross to Dracula to some folks around here. He stood up and gave a time agreement of 30 minutes. He made his pitch on ATF, why they should be included the way the President wants them included. All of a sudden, there is silence on the other side, not a response, no question, just so we cannot vote on it.

What is this, legislation by fiat? Now, look, if this is about getting the bill done, which I thought that is what the cloture thing was about, getting it done, in the 2 hours we have wasted, we could have disposed of at least four of these amendments already. We can get this done.

But that is not what this is about. This is about making sure that the Republican bill stays the way they wrote it. And they are using legitimate procedural approaches under Senate rules to effectively make sure we cannot offer other amendments.

As a matter of fact, one of the four amendments that are about to be offered relative to guns, I am voting against. I do not think we should take away the civilian marksmanship money. Why can we not even allow the guy to raise it?

I tell Members, this is not about time, folks. Understand, this is not about time. This is not about anything other than making sure that the majority can dictate to the minority what they can bring up and under what circumstances they can bring it up. I suspect they would be very satisfied—I hope they would be satisfied—if they brought up all the amendments that would not fall when cloture was invoked, vote on them, and then try to make the rest of them fall.

I cannot think of any major bill—I am sure there is an exception to this—off the top of my head, any major bill, that did not have nongermane amendments in a technical sense attached to it. I cannot think of any. It is possible. I am sure there are some, but I cannot think of any. And we are acting like this is some kind of unusual procedure.

Look, we can give a time agreement on all the 16 amendments. It can all be

done—could have been done by tonight. It still can, if we are willing to stay in very late. We could be finished. We do not even have to get to cloture to get to final passage on this bill. But if there is another reason not to do that, I understand it. I respect the right of the Republican majority to deal with this under the rules. If they want to do that, fine. But, please, do not make anybody make any misunderstanding. There are not 60 amendments, there are not 50, there are not 40, there are not 20, there are 16 and dwindling. Four—five of which so far we have been told bluntly they will not allow us to vote on them.

The one—let me be precise. Four we are told we are not allowed to vote on. And, by the way, the longest one has a 60-minute time agreement on it. The others have 20-minute time agreements. And one of which I do not know what they are saying, on the Kerrey amendment about ATF.

I ask my friend from Utah, are we ready to vote on the Kerrey amendment?

Mr. HATCH. Let me answer my colleague. I am prepared to try to resolve that amendment as I am all of them. When we appeared—

Mr. BIDEN. We are ready to vote, Senator.

Mr. HATCH. I understand. When we appeared down at the Cabinet room we promised the President, on our side, at least, we would not make this—we would try to get it passed. I made it very clear at that time that habeas corpus reform would be in the bill and we were trying to satisfy him on it.

I have not heard that he is against the provisions in this bill. If he is for what the Senator from Delaware wants instead of the provisions in this bill, I certainly will be interested in that. Because I do not think he wants to limit it just to the Federal courts, the appeals.

Let me just say this. When we were there we said we would not make this a gun fight. We will do that, if we have to. We will face those issues on the crime bill. And we have succeeded on our side. We have a lot of people over here who are very dissatisfied with some of the current laws with regard to the right to keep and bear arms that we have personally gone to and said, "Do not bring them up on this bill. The President wants an expedited bill. He wants to solve this problem, and, by gosh, we intend to solve it." And our people have not. We turn around and here we have the gun fight started on the other side, that is irrelevant to this bill.

Mr. BIDEN. Will the Senator yield for a question, just a brief question, a serious question?

Mr. HATCH. Of course.

Mr. BIDEN. Will the Senator be prepared to move forward if we drop the four gun amendments?

Mr. HATCH. I certainly believe we could.

Mr. BIDEN. And enter time agreements on all the remaining amendments?

Mr. HATCH. It is up to the leader but I certainly believe we could if we drop the gun issue.

Mr. BIDEN. I ask the leader, will he be willing to continue on the bill if we drop the four gun amendments and vote on the other amendments?

Mr. DOLE. I do not know if those are gun amendments or not. I have not looked at the amendments. I want to stick to terrorism. I want to see what the end result is, when we would finish the bill. But I underscore what the Senator from Utah said. I attended the White House meeting. Everybody was saying "They are going to make this a big gun fight." We said "No, we are not going to do that. We are not going to offer any of the so-called gun amendments." And then we have them all offered on the other side, or many offered on the other side.

We say no. We accommodate the President. He wants to get the bill passed. The President was at the Air Force Academy and blasted Congress for not passing a bill. Mr. President, 67 amendments were filed by Democrats. We only saw seven of those amendments before Monday. We did not know where they were. We did not know what the other 60 were.

I just suggest we are going to either complete this bill or we are going to have a cloture vote in the morning. If we do not get cloture it is out of here. It is gone.

Mr. HATCH. Could I add one other thing in response to my good friend from Delaware—

Mr. BIDEN. Surely.

Mr. HATCH. My partner in the Judiciary Committee. We do not even know what some of the other amendments are because nobody has given us any language. But I think there might be a way of resolving this if we got rid of the gun fight and reserve that for the crime bill.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, if the Senator will yield?

Mr. HATCH. We would like to see what the other amendments are before we move ahead.

Mr. BIDEN. If the Senator will yield, they were all filed by noon today.

Mr. HATCH. We do not know what Senator KERRY's amendment is. I am talking about Senator JOHN KERRY from Massachusetts.

Mr. BIDEN. No, my question was about Senator KERREY from Nebraska. Are we ready to vote on that amendment?

Mr. HATCH. I am trying to get that cleared on our side. The amendment I am concerned about is Senator JOHN KERRY from Massachusetts. We do not have any language on that.

Mr. BIDEN. If it is not filed—

Mr. HATCH. You said you would get back to us on that.

Mr. BIDEN. I am told the amendment was filed at noon.

Mr. HATCH. The Democrats have 20 amendments. Before Monday we had language on only seven of those amendments. We certainly do not know what the John Kerry amendment is.

Mr. BIDEN. Let me reiterate. It was filed, I am told. And, No. 2, of the 35 or so amendments Republicans filed, we did not have copies of any of those amendments either. I mean what are we talking about here?

Mr. HATCH. I would like to know what they are and let us see if we can resolve it. If we can get rid of the gun fight around here and go ahead on habeas and some of these other problems that really pertain to this bill, sure we are going to want to go ahead. I want to go ahead.

Mr. BIDEN. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. President, if I may. I do not know whether I am making unreasonable work for the Parliamentarian here with this request. If I am I would be happy to be told so and I will withhold.

Have all the amendments that are able to be attached to this bill prior to cloture—have they all been filed by 12:30 today?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All first-degree amendments had to have been filed by 12:30 today.

Mr. BIDEN. I would ask, is there an amendment—or if they need time—is there a John Kerry of Massachusetts first-degree amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator KERRY of Massachusetts filed an amendment, No. 1212.

Mr. BIDEN. I understand that that is an amendment relating to firearms. And that would, relating to the list of the 16 amendments, make it five of them relating to firearms, including the one Senator JOHN KERRY filed. The point being, it was filed almost 4 hours ago at the desk in accordance with the rule requiring first degrees to have been filed.

The only point I want to make is there is not any subterfuge here that no one knows what is going on. We may not know what is going on because we did not go look, but it has been filed. It is there. We have, of the total of 16 amendments we are talking about, five of them relating to firearms.

We are ready to vote. We can dispose of all these amendments including those five amendments I have just referenced. It can all be done and all finished before the cloture vote tomorrow if there is good faith to try to move. We are willing to enter into time agreements.

What I would like to suggest, since we cannot enter into a time agreement on those five amendments, maybe while the Republican side is responding to Senator JOHN KERRY's amendment—and a further parliamentary inquiry—I mean ROBERT KERREY's amendment—what is the pending business?

Mr. DOLE. There is not any pending business. We are in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Actually we are in morning business right now.

Mr. BIDEN. What was the pending business prior to us going into morning business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Kerrey of Nebraska amendment, No. 1208.

Mr. BIDEN. The Kerrey of Nebraska amendment 1208?

Mr. KERREY exhausted his argumentation on it and is ready to vote on it.

Mr. DOLE. We are ready to take it.

Mr. HATCH. We are very close to taking that amendment. I just have to clear one or two more people, and we are working on it. Let me suggest the absence of a quorum.

Before I do, let me suggest let us work on this, let us see if we can get together. There is good will on both sides here. We want to get this resolved. But we just do not want the gun fight on this bill. It is a reasonable request. I understand the sincerity of people on the other side who do want it. There are people on our side who did, and we kept them off. We fought them and said you cannot do it. We told the President we would not do it. Now all of a sudden we are in the middle of a gun fight and we just do not want to do it on this bill. This bill is too important.

Frankly, I think we can battle out these other things. The questions on habeas we will fight it out here on the floor and let the chips fall where they may. We have been willing to do that from the beginning.

I see the majority leader wishes to speak.

Mr. DOLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I wonder if the two managers might go off somewhere and try to see if they cannot put together something. Better than do it out here in the open.

Mr. BIDEN. You do want us to come back, do you not?

Mr. DOLE. It is like making sausage out here.

It may be we can work it out. I do not see much problem with the Kerrey amendment. We might be able to accept that with some modification. But we want to finish the bill. I promised the President we would finish it before Memorial Day. I like to keep my word. That was not possible. But the President did not know it was not possible and he said some things I did not like.

So I am going to finish this bill. If I do not finish the bill it will not be my fault. Because we could not get cloture or we could not get cooperation on the other side. That is his side, not my side. We are ready. We are ready to do habeas corpus and have final passage before 6 o'clock. That would be an antiterrorism bill. All these other things are going to be around here a long time, this year and next year. We can offer all the amendments we wish. This came to us as an emergency. This was an emergency. We were all called to the White House. We do not do this on every bill.

This is very important to the President of the United States. He has been

to Oklahoma City. He saw the need. He met with the Attorney General. He met with leaders of Congress and said, "Let's do it." We did not say let us see how many amendments we can offer, who can outpoint each other, make some political points on some issue, whatever it might be. That is what we are about to get into here, and I do not think I want to be any part of that. I want to try to keep my word to the President. If we cannot, we cannot. We will do the best we can. I think he will understand. If he does not understand, I will write him a letter. But that is the way it goes.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, in response to the leader's suggestion that Senator HATCH and I go off, I am always happy to go off with Senator HATCH. What I would like to suggest is that in the meantime we move on an amendment that the President wants in this bill, the wiretap amendment, while he and I are off. We can continue to make progress. I just think we should debate it in case we do not even get close.

Mr. DOLE. We are close on that amendment, too. If the Senator and Senator HATCH could go off somewhere for 10 minutes they could probably get back pretty much with an agreement.

Mr. HATCH. We have been trying to get an answer to that one for the last 36 hours.

I intend to accept that amendment.

Mr. BIDEN. Good. I urge the amendment.

Mr. HATCH. I have to check one or two more people. I am personally doing the best I can. It is an amendment that really would allow wiretaps following the criminal. In other words, instead of having to follow the phone they follow the criminal who might use multiple phones. I personally have no objection to that and think it is a wise amendment. The President wants it. I support the President.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I think—

Mr. HATCH. But I have to deal with my side, too.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, my experience is not as extensive as the leader's and slightly more extensive than the Senator from Utah's here, but it seems to me we waste a whole lot of time working out whether we can work things out rather than just bringing them up and voting on them. By the time we get to vote on it, we are slowing things up.

I have another amendment we can move to, then.

Mr. HATCH. Will the Senator yield before he does? We have a bunch of pending amendments that we have asked you to accept. The Smith amendment, which would set a floor.

Mr. BIDEN. We cannot, but let us vote on Smith. We are ready to vote.

Mr. HATCH. We have McCain-Leahy. We have the Pressler amendment.

Mr. BIDEN. McCain-Leahy is cleared.

Mr. HATCH. Then I urge McCain-Leahy—oh, we are still in morning

business. I am ready to move here. We have Senator SPECTER's amendment.

Mr. BIDEN. We are ready to vote on the Specter amendment. We would agree to a 10-minute time agreement.

Mr. DOLE. You cannot take it? You do not want to take it or you cannot take it?

Mr. BIDEN. We cannot take it now so let us just vote on it. Look, in 10 minutes—the whole thing is over in 25 minutes rather than spending 45 minutes deciding whether we can take it.

Mr. DOLE. We would like to take a number of back-to-back votes if we are going to do that.

Mr. HATCH. We have the Brown amendment?

Mr. DOLE. Why can you not take any of our amendments and we are taking your amendments? Because we are Republicans?

Mr. BIDEN. We can take Hatch. We can take the Hatch amendment, and we are happy to do that. We are ready to accept the Hatch amendment. We have already taken the McCain amendment. That is two out of six. That is about what your average is.

Mr. DOLE. You are getting better.

Mr. BIDEN. The Pressler amendment; three out of seven. That is better than your average.

Mr. HATCH. How about Abraham? Can you take Abraham?

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SNOWE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

Mr. DOLE. Madam President, I will just announce, the Senator from Delaware and the Senator from Utah have been meeting. We now have a list of amendments, but I think we need time to determine whether or not we are going to proceed, because there are 24 amendments now. There were not that many when they went into the meeting, but they came out with 24 amendments. The time agreements just on the Democratic side would take 9 hours.

I think I need to meet with Senator HATCH to see whether there is any other option, other than waiting and having the cloture vote tomorrow morning.

So, Madam President, I move that the Senate stand in recess until the hour of 6:10 p.m.

The motion was agreed to, and at 5:36 p.m., the Senate recessed until 6:08 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer [Mr. BURNS].

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.