

commission. The time has come that we need to find out the discrepancies in the pricing system for our meat, today. Thank you and I yield the floor.

Mr. DOLE. I thank my colleague from Minnesota. There will be no more votes this evening.

Mr. GRAMS. Madam President, I request that I be allowed to speak as in morning business.

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

(The remarks of Mr. GRAMS pertaining to the introduction of S. 1441 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

#### RONALD REAGAN BUILDING AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, this has been cleared on each side. I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be immediately discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2481, and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2481) to designate the Federal Triangle Project under construction at 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest, in the District of Columbia, as the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DOLE. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be deemed read a third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be placed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

So the bill (H.R. 2481) was deemed read the third time and passed.

Mrs. BOXER. I would like to have about 20 minutes in morning business.

Mr. DOLE. Could we do wrap-up first?

Mrs. BOXER. Absolutely.

Mr. SANTORUM. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SANTORUM. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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. SANTORUM. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that there be a period for the transaction of routine morning business.

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

#### MISSILE SALES TO TURKEY

Mr. PRESSLER. Madam President, on Monday, December 18, my good friend from New York, Senator D'AMATO and I, sent a letter to Secretary of State Warren Christopher, urging the Clinton Administration to reconsider its decision to sell 120 Army tactical missile systems [ATACMs] to the government of Turkey.

I was troubled to learn last night that the Clinton Administration intends to proceed with the sale. This transfer is ill-advised, to say the least. I strongly urge the Administration to reconsider its decision or at the very least, place clear, indisputable restrictions on deployment and use of these weapons.

This transfer does not make sense. Generally, it is disturbing because the Turkish government has used U.S. and NATO military equipment repeatedly in the past to advance policy and military objectives that are clearly not in our best interests.

As all of us are well aware, the Turkish government in 1974 used NATO military equipment when it invaded the island of Cyprus. More than two decades later, Cyprus remains divided, with one side subjected to an occupation force of 35,000 Turkish troops. I have held a great interest in resolving the Cyprus dispute. This is a matter of strong, bipartisan interest. The Clinton Administration has stated that it intends to make a serious effort to reunite Cyprus. Frankly, I cannot see how the proposed missile sale helps our nation achieve this goal. I believe the opposite is true, and that is very unfortunate.

I also am concerned about American made military equipment being used to prolong the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan. It has been documented that Turkey has transferred U.S. and NATO military hardware to the Azeris, who have made use of this equipment against civilian populations in the besieged Nagorno-Karabagh region. It is my understanding that it is contrary to U.S. policy for a buyer of U.S.-made military equipment to transfer such equipment to a third party. What assurances do we have from Turkey that it intends to abide by this policy?

Finally, I am concerned that this missile sale could serve to prolong continued violence between the Turkish Army and the Kurds. For more than a decade the Turkish government has waged a brutal war against the Kurdish people. Human rights watch [HRW] estimated that the conflict has resulted in the death of 19,000 Kurds, including 2,000 civilians, and the destruction of 2,000 villages. More than 2 million Kurds have been forced from their homes.

HRW also reported that in 29 incidents from 1992 and 1995, the Turkish

Army used U.S.-supplied fighter-bombers and helicopters to attack civilian villages and other targets. Further, U.S. and NATO-supplied small arms and armored personnel carriers have been used in a counter-insurgency campaign against thousands of Kurdish villages.

Clearly, these instances stretching over a period of more than two decades are contrary to our nation's interests as well as our own moral sensibility. In the face of this evidence, the President now wishes to supply the Turkish Army with 120 ATACMs. What exactly are ATACMs? Basically, the U.S. Army handbook describes the ATACM as a conventional surface-to-surface ballistic missile launched from a M270 launcher. Each missile has a warhead that carries a combined payload of 950 small cluster bomblets, which can spray shrapnel over a large area.

The practical use of an ATACM does not leave much to the imagination. This kind of missile can be used to disable numerous human and material targets at once and very quickly. Kurdish villages and organized teams of Kurdish dissidents easily could be targets for ballistic missile attack. This would be a terrible tragedy.

The Administration has argued that these missiles are a necessary deterrent against two potential aggressors along Turkey's borders—Iran and Iraq. I believe these missiles are far from necessary. Consider the following: Turkey is an ally of the United States. It is a member of NATO. The Turkish military's Incrylik air base is a launching point for our enforcement of the no-fly zone over Northern Iraq. And Turkey will participate in the enforcement of the Dayton peace accord in Bosnia. I would think that the strategic importance of Turkey to the United States and Europe is enough to deter any foolish military action by either Iran or Iraq. If our nation can mobilize the world to expel Iraq from the tiny nation of Kuwait, imagine our response if Iraq or Iran even made a hostile gesture toward Turkey. Clearly, the Administration's "deterrent" argument to justify the missile sale is hollow at best.

Indeed, I can find no credible political, economic or strategic cause that is furthered by the sale of the ATACMs to Turkey.

Madam President, just last month, Congress took a strong stand against Turkish aggression in the region by voting to cap US economic support funds for Turkey. This is an important step. My friend from New York, Senator D'AMATO, and I are sponsors of legislation that would take even tougher action. It is my hope that we in Congress can all agree that there must be an added price for US economic and military assistance to our allies, particularly our NATO allies, and that price is morally responsible use of U.S. assistance. I do not see how the Administration's missile sale fits even that basic standard.