

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . FLUID MILK PROMOTION PROGRAM EXTENSION.

Section 1990(a) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6614(a)) is amended by striking "1996" and inserting "2002"

GRAMS AMENDMENT NO. 3439

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. GRAMS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the amendment No. 3184 proposed by Mr. LEAHY to the bill (S. 1541), supra; as follows:

Beginning on page 1-73, strike line 12 and all that follows through page 1-75, line 7.

CONRAD AMENDMENT NO. 3440-3441

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. CONRAD submitted two amendments intended to be proposed by him to amendment No. 3252 submitted by Mr. LUGAR to amendment No. 3184 proposed by Mr. LEAHY to the bill S. 1541, supra; as follows:

AMENDMENT No. 3440

On page 4-45, strike lines 9 through 13 and insert the following:

"The Secretary may not reschedule or reamortize a loan for a borrower under this title who has not requested consideration under section 331D(e) unless the borrower—

"(1) after paying all family living and operating expenses, excluding interest, can pay a portion, as determined by the Secretary, of the interest due on the loan; and

"(2) has disposed of all normal income security.

AMENDMENT No. 3441

On page 4-29, strike lines 21 and 22 and insert the following:

(i) by striking "exceed 15 percent" and all that follows through "Code" and inserting the following: "exceed—

"(i) 25 percent of the median acreage of the farms or ranches, as the case may be, in the county in which the farm or ranch operations of the applicant are located, as reported in the most recent census of agriculture taken under section 142 of title 13, United States Code.

KOHL (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 3442.

Mr. WELLSTONE (for Mr. KOHL for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. PRESSLER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to amendment No. 3184 proposed by Mr. LEAHY to the bill s. 1541, supra; as follows:

Beginning on page 1-73, strike line 12 and all that follows through page 1-75, line 7.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREST AND PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

Mr. CRAIG, Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public the scheduling of a field hearing in Hot Springs, AR, before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management on S. 1025, exchange of lands, mineral, oil and gas interests.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, February 15, 1996, beginning at 2:30 p.m. in the Arlington Resort Hotel, 239 Central Avenue, Hot Springs, AR 71902. Testimony will be received on the land exchange of certain federally owned lands and minerals interest, with private lands owned by the Weyerhaeuser Co.

Because of the limited time available, witnesses may testify by invitation only. Witnesses testifying at the hearing are requested to bring 10 copies of their testimony with them on the day of the hearing. In addition, please send or fax a copy in advance to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. Fax 202-228-0539.

For further information, please contact Mark Rey of the committee staff at 202-224-6170.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. STEVENS, Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, will hold hearings regarding the Asset Forfeiture Program—an investigation of the Bicycle Club Casino.

This hearing will take place on Tuesday, February 27, 1996, in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Harold Damelin of the subcommittee staff at 224-3721.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Immigration, of the Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 6, 1996, at 10 a.m., to hold a hearing on the use of SSI and other welfare programs by Immigration.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 6, 1996, for purposes of conducting a Subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony to review trends in Federal land ownership by the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Forest Service.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

LEGISLATION TO BAN U.N. TAX PROPOSAL

• Mr. BURNS, Mr. President, I wish to state my support for Senate bill 1519, the Prohibition of United Nations Taxation Act of 1996. This bill was introduced by Senator DOLE, and referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

This legislation bars the United States from making any voluntary or assessed payments to the United Nations if Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali imposes any tax or fee on United States citizens or continues to consider any such proposal.

I find it outrageous that the United Nations could actually believe it has the sovereignty to raise and collect taxes on the people of this world to increase its coffers. The idea of a tax on any international action, whether it be a plane ticket, a letter mailed, or a currency exchange, is simply beyond my belief.

This revenue would then be used by unelected, world bureaucrats to do what they want under the umbrella of the United Nations. This organization has repeatedly attempted to increase its power even as the U.S. Congress tries to limit its scope and authority.

There are many questions about the U.N.'s responsibilities and its ever-growing role in international relations ranging from peacekeeping missions to international conferences on everything from children's rights to the environment.

Recently, in my home State of Montana, a U.N. delegation visited Yellowstone National Park in order to promote a buffer zone that would prohibit mineral development in the area. It is bad enough that we have allowed the United Nations to set our international role, but now we are allowing it to come into our country and set national policy. I ask that the February 1, 1996 Washington Times article entitled "U.N. 'intrusion' stirs anger at Yellowstone," be printed in the RECORD.

There are many cases that exemplify the degree to which to the United Nations is full of waste and uncontrolled spending. I cosponsored an amendment to the 1995 fiscal year State Department authorization bill that would establish the position of inspector general within the United Nations to seriously address the rampant corruption and inefficiency throughout the U.N. system and make it more accountable.

While it is true that the United States owes in excess of \$1 billion in membership contributions, it is also true that we provide a quarter to a third of the U.N.'s budget. Compare that to other countries who are still assessed membership dues at the same rate as they were when they were developing countries in the sixties.

The last thing the United Nations should be given is the ability to raise revenue in order to increase its powers.

I am disgusted with the U.N.'s arrogance in believing it can increase its budget by taxing our citizens. This proposal should not be permitted to go any further.

S. 1519 concludes that the United Nations has no legal authority to tax American citizens. It prohibits U.S. payments to the United Nations if it attempts to impose any of the taxation schemes. And finally, the bill cuts off funds for any U.N. organization which develop or advocate taxation schemes.

Once again, I support this bill to bar U.S. contributions to the United Nations if that organization continues to consider its scheme for taxation without representation.

The article follows:

[From the Washington Times, Feb. 1, 1996]

U.N. 'INTRUSION' STIRS ANGER AT YELLOWSTONE—ENVIRONMENTAL ALARM SEEN AS MEDDLING

(By Valerie Richardson)

DENVER.—A United Nations delegation to Yellowstone National Park has spurred outrage among Westerners who accuse the international body of meddling in domestic policy.

After a three-day evaluation by international experts, the World Heritage Committee, a bureau of the United Nations Environmental, Scientific and Cultural Organization, declared Yellowstone a World Heritage site "in danger."

Chief among the delegation's concerns was the proposed reopening of the New World Mine, a gold mine located near Yellowstone in Montana. But debate about the mine has been all but overshadowed by the uproar over the delegation itself.

In areas of the West where the states'-rights movement is flourishing and distrust of centralized government is at an all-time high, the arrival of a U.N. committee has been viewed as nothing less than an attempt to subvert U.S. sovereignty.

"Will the New World Order sabotage the New World Mine?" the Montana Standard newspaper in Butte asked in an Aug. 27 editorial. "Clinton administration officials appear to be scheming to bring that about."

Sen. Alan K. Simpson, Wyoming Republican, called the international delegation's role "a terrible intrusion." He and other Western lawmakers have blasted Interior Assistant Secretary George Frampton for inviting the committee to Yellowstone and urging the panel to lend its voice to those fighting the New World Mine.

Mr. Frampton issued the invitation at the request of "concerned citizens," said park spokeswoman Cheryl Matthews. Those citizens include a coalition of 14 environmental groups working to halt the mine, including the Greater Yellowstone Coalition, the Sierra Club and the World Wildlife Fund.

"When we made the request a year ago, we didn't anticipate the black-helicopter arguments," said Bob Ekey, spokesman for the Greater Yellowstone Coalition in Bozeman, Mont. "Frankly, some of our critics have been putting out misinformation—that the U.N. is going to come out, claim the area and run the park."

Other Western leaders have accused Mr. Frampton of badly overstepping his authority by trying to kill the proposed mine before the review process is complete. The U.S. Forest Service and Montana Department of Environmental Quality are now preparing an environmental-impact statement on the project.

"It is astonishing that a group of extreme environmentalists can invite a few folks

from the United Nations to circumvent laws that Americans and Montanans have worked hard for and lent their voices to," said Sen. Conrad Burns, Montana Republican.

"We have an exhaustive procedure in the books in Montana to decide where mines can and cannot be cited. Why should we allow the U.N. to pick and choose when these laws and rules will be allowed to work?"

Rep. Barbara Cubin, Wyoming Republican, noted that Mr. Frampton is ultimately responsible for a "fair" review of the project, "yet he is the very person who requested the United Nations interference within the borders of the United States."

"Does he want foreigners to determine our environmental requirements?" she asked. "Doesn't he know that the United States has the strictest environmental regulations on the planet?"

Marvin Jensen, Yellowstone National Park assistant superintendent, stressed that the international delegation has "no legal authority" to set domestic policy. "The only thing the World Heritage Committee can do is list and de-list," he said.

"To be listed as 'in danger' raises questions about the site's continued listing," he explained. "To be de-listed would be embarrassing to any country."

But some critics worry that the committee may have more power than forest officials acknowledge. By signing the World Heritage Treaty in 1972 and requesting Yellowstone's designation as a World Heritage site in 1978, the United States pledged to manage the park according to treaty requirements, says the committee.

The most controversial of those requirements is the establishment of a buffer zone around each World Heritage site. When Yellowstone was listed, officials agreed that the seven national forests surrounding the park would serve as an adequate protection. None of the other 17 listed U.S. sites has a formal buffer zone.

Past proposals for a buffer zone called for establishing an 18.2-million-acre perimeter around the park in which many economic and recreational activities would be restricted, including ranching, logging, snowmobiling, even auto traffic. Most locals staunchly oppose such a zone.

During the delegation's three-day tour in September, however, committee President Adul Wichiencharoen of Thailand fed local fears when he suggested expanding the buffer zone around the 2.3-million-acre park. That recommendation was ultimately dropped from the final report.

Those remarks notwithstanding, park officials still insist the committee's role is strictly advisory, and, barring another invitation from the Interior Department, over and done with.

Mr. Jensen admitted it's been difficult to convince some local residents of that. "One local fellow—a gardener—asked me, 'So when's the U.N. coming to take over Yellowstone?'" said Mr. Jensen. "I talked to him and talked to him and I could not convince him that that wasn't going to happen."•

CHECHNYA

• Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the bloody events that took place in the regions of Chechnya and Dagestan in recent months have alarmed us all. Terrorist acts by Chechen separatist rebels were answered with brutal shelling of rebel, hostage, and civilian positions by Russian troops. Although it is unclear how many people were killed during the fighting, Russian President Boris Yeltsin estimates that 153

Chechen separatists, 42 hostages, and 26 Russian soldiers died during the 10-day crisis.

In October 1991, Dzhokhar Dudayev, a Moslem Chechen leader, was elected president of Chechnya and soon declared independence from Russia. This decision was met with immediate resistance from Moscow and President Yeltsin declared a state of emergency in the region. Over the past several years, Russian military forces clashed repeatedly with Chechen nationalist forces loyal to Dudayev. After considerable bloodshed on both sides, a unilateral cease-fire was declared in April 1995. Unfortunately, it did not last and fighting soon resumed.

On January 6, 1996, the fighting in Chechnya again reached the world stage. Chechen separatists attacked a Russian airfield in Chechnya and destroyed two helicopter gunships. The rebels, under the command of Salam Raduyev, the son-in-law of Dudayev, withdrew from the airfield and proceeded to take more than 2,000 innocent men, women, and children hostage in a hospital in the town of Kizlyar in the neighboring region of Dagestan.

After negotiating with the Russians, Raduyev released the majority of the hostages in return for safe passage to Chechnya. The rebels and 120 hostages boarded buses bound for Chechnya, but the convoy was stopped a short distance from Chechnya by Russian forces near the town of Pervomayskoye. Negotiations to end the stalemate failed, and the rebels dug in for a siege. Rather than continue to work toward a peaceful solution to the crisis, the Russian military opened fire on the rebel positions in the town with tanks, howitzers, rockets, and small arms fire. Pervomayskoye is now totally destroyed.

I do not condone the terrorist acts employed by the Chechen rebels and abhor their use of civilians as shields. Terrorism is never a legitimate negotiating ploy, and I hope that those who are responsible for these acts are brought to justice.

I am, however, outraged about the use of excessive force by the Russian military against the rebels and the remaining hostages as well as the restrictions imposed on humanitarian groups who attempted to assist the wounded in Pervomayskoye. Humanitarian groups such as Doctors Without Borders and the International Red Cross were not allowed to enter the town to aid injured civilians. At the same time, Russian soldiers were helicoptered out of the area to the nearest field hospitals.

The exact number of casualties remains in doubt because members of the Western press were not allowed near Pervomayskoye and the casualty reports from both sides are not reliable. The New York Times reported as late as January 21 that Russian soldiers confiscated film from Western photographers that were attempting to photograph the smoldering ruins of the town.