

Mr. LOTT. Thank you very much.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. We do have a number of unanimous-consent agreements that we have worked out. We would like to go through these. And some of them are still being worked on as we speak. But we can go ahead and get started.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST—
H.R. 3953

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now turn to consideration of H.R. 3953, the House-passed terrorism bill just received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I ask unanimous consent the majority leader modify his consent to provide for passage of the bill as amended by a substitute amendment, providing for roving wiretaps, and requiring taggants for black powder, that the bill be read the third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would not be able, at this time, to agree to that addition to the unanimous-consent request.

A lot of good work was done in this area this week. I think they came very, very close to getting an overall agreement, and I thought yesterday afternoon, actually, it was going to be achieved. They did not quite make it. This is something we will have to work on.

I do personally think additional authority should be granted on wiretap. I think a lot of the aviation security matters that are included in this bill are very, very important. I am sorry we could not get it worked out. I think more than anything else, time has run out on us.

However, I have to object to that.

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object, I share the view expressed by the majority leader. I was very hopeful at the beginning of this week that we could have concluded our work to provide yet another opportunity to pass a good piece of legislation dealing with a very important matter by the end of this week. That was not possible.

I am disappointed, but we will have to dedicate our effort to ensure that does happen when we get back. I hope we could do it sooner rather than later.

I object to this bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

MEASURE READ FOR THE FIRST
TIME—H.R. 3953

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, in light of the objection, I ask that H.R. 3953 be read for the first time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3953) to combat terrorism.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now ask for its second reading, and I believe the Democratic leader would object, so I object on his behalf.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard. The bill will be read on the next legislative day.

NOMINATIONS TO REMAIN IN STA-
TUS QUO UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2,
1996

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that all nominations received by the Senate during the 104th Congress, 2d session, remain in status quo notwithstanding the August 2 adjournment until September 2, 1996, and rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the standing rules of the Senate.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar 384, Charles Hunnicutt, Assistant Secretary of Transportation; Calendar 509, Charles Burton, U.S. Enrichment Corporation; Calendar 510, Christopher Coburn, U.S. Enrichment Corporation; Calendar 710, Thomas Hill Moore, Consumer Product Safety Commission; Calendar 716, Edward McGaffigan, Jr., Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Calendar 717, Nils Diaz, Nuclear Regulatory Commission; I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, that any statements relating to the nominations appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Charles A. Hunnicutt, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

UNITED STATES ENRICHMENT CORPORATION

Charles William Burton, of Texas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Enrichment Corporation for a term expiring February 24, 2001.

Christopher M. Coburn, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Enrichment Corporation for a term expiring February 24, 2000.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Thomas Hill Morre, of Florida, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a term of seven years from October 26, 1996.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Edward McGaffigan, Jr., of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2000.

Nils J. Diaz, of Florida, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2001.

NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER COBURN

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the nomination of Christopher Coburn to the Board of the U.S. Enrichment Corporation. I believe the nomination of Mr. Coburn to this board would put the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant at a disadvantage in the siting of the Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation [AVLIS] technology.

As a member of the USEC Board, Mr. Coburn will have the responsibility of implementing the privatization of the USEC and charting its future course, including the implementation of the AVLIS technology.

The commercialization of this technology would mean billions of dollars of investment as well as ensuring the continued viability of the U.S. enrichment industry. If I may put the issue in stark, but accurate terms, the USEC's decision about siting AVLIS is more fundamentally a decision about which one of these plants will be able to remain competitive and viable into the next century.

Earlier this year, President Clinton appointed Mr. Coburn to the board because he believed Mr. Coburn was uniquely qualified following his service as the executive director of the Thomas Edison Program and as the science and technology advisor to the Governor of Ohio. It has come to my attention that while serving as the executive director of the Thomas Edison Project, Mr. Coburn developed a proposal to locate the AVLIS technology in Portsmouth, OH.

Mr. President, the placement of Mr. Coburn on the USEC's board at this time would cause serious doubts about the objectivity and fairness of the USEC as it begins to assess which facility should obtain the AVLIS technology. The stakes concerning this decision are so monumental that we cannot allow any inference of bias to infect the process by which that decision is made.

In an effort to protect the interests of the workers employed at the Paducah plant and the economy of western Kentucky I asked the President to withdraw the nomination of the Mr. Corburn. Since the President has ignored my concerns I have tried to block the confirmation of Mr. Coburn.

Unfortunately, I realize the votes are not in my favor. Nonetheless, I will