

## NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

## CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The hour of 3 o'clock having arrived, under the previous order, the clerk will report the motion to invoke cloture.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Calendar No. 88, S. 936, the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1998: Trent Lott, Strom Thurmond, Jesse Helms, Pete Domenici, R.F. Bennett, Dan Coats, John Warner, Phil Gramm, Thad Cochran, Larry E. Craig, Ted Stevens, Tim Hutchinson, Jon Kyl, Rick Santorum, Mike DeWine, and Spencer Abraham.

## VOICE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on S. 936, the Department of Defense authorization bill, shall be brought to a close? The yeas and nays are required. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Indiana [Mr. COATS], the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], the Senator from Vermont [Mr. JEFFORDS], the Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN], the Senator from Delaware [Mr. ROTH], and the Senator from Oregon [Mr. SMITH] are necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Delaware [Mr. BIDEN], the Senator from Louisiana [Ms. LANDRIEU], and the Senator from Maryland [Ms. MIKULSKI] are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 46, nays 45, as follows:

## [Rollcall Vote No. 161 Leg.]

## YEAS—46

Abraham	Faircloth	Murkowski
Allard	Frist	Nickles
Ashcroft	Gramm	Roberts
Bennett	Grams	Santorum
Bond	Grassley	Sessions
Brownback	Gregg	Shelby
Burns	Hagel	Smith (NH)
Campbell	Hatch	Snowe
Chafee	Helms	Specter
Collins	Hutchison	Stevens
Coverdell	Inhofe	Thomas
Craig	Kempthorne	Thompson
D'Amato	Kyl	Thurmond
DeWine	Lott	Warner
Domenici	Mack	
Enzi	McConnell	

## NAYS—45

Akaka	Durbin	Kohl
Baucus	Feingold	Lautenberg
Bingaman	Feinstein	Leahy
Boxer	Ford	Levin
Breaux	Glenn	Lieberman
Bryan	Gorton	Lugar
Bumpers	Graham	Moseley-Braun
Byrd	Harkin	Moynihan
Cleland	Hollings	Murray
Cochran	Inouye	Reed
Conrad	Johnson	Reid
Daschle	Kennedy	
Dodd	Kerrey	
Dorgan	Kerry	

Robb	Sarbanes	Wellstone
Rockefeller	Torricelli	Wyden

## NOT VOTING—9

Biden	Jeffords	Mikulski
Coats	Landrieu	Roth
Hutchinson	McCain	Smith (OR)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 46, the nays are 45. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The pending question is amendment No. 666, offered by the Senator from Minnesota.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

## AMENDMENT NO. 658, AS MODIFIED

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I would like to and will speak briefly on an issue that I think is of significance and importance as we are addressing the defense authorization bill, and that is the amendment of the Senator from Indiana, Senator LUGAR.

I urge that the Senate support his amendment to restore the cuts made in the Nunn-Lugar cooperative threat reduction programs in the Department of Defense and related nuclear material security programs in the Department of Energy. The funds spent on these programs are the most important cost-effective contribution to our national security that we can make.

Today, and for the foreseeable future, the greatest threat to national security involves potential terrorist acts using weapons of mass destruction. And it is ironic that after living for 40 years under the specter of a cold war nuclear holocaust, the prospect of a nuclear explosion taking place within the United States has actually increased since the dissolution of the former Soviet Union. This is the ominous view of both the intelligence community and the Department of Defense. Any defense bill we enact must deal responsibly with this threat.

We have taken significant steps to do so in recent years. In 1991, Senator Nunn and Senator LUGAR initiated the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program. The basic concept of that program and the nuclear materials safety programs at the Department of Energy is that paying for the destruction and safeguarding of nuclear weapons in the states of the former Soviet Union increases the security of America itself.

The accomplishments of these programs offer convincing evidence that the Nunn-Lugar program works. The Defense Department has already helped to fund the elimination of 6,000 nuclear warheads in nations of the former Soviet Union. Never again will these weapons threaten the United States.

The funds for the Nunn-Lugar and related programs are the most cost-effective

dollars spent in the entire defense budget.

They support the complete destruction of nuclear weapons in the nations of the former Soviet Union.

They strengthen border controls to prevent the illegal transport of nuclear bomb-making materials.

They support efforts to protect these materials from theft at their storage sites or during transport.

They provide employment and economic incentives for former Soviet weapons scientists to avoid the temptation that they will sell their know-how to buyers from nations and organizations that support international terrorism.

They fund cooperative efforts to match U.S. commercial applications with the Russian defense industry.

Since these programs began, Congress has fully funded the administration's budget requests until this year. The current committee bill reduces the President's request by \$135 million. The bill takes \$60 million from the Defense Department's Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, which the department intended to use to help Ukraine destroy its SS-24 intercontinental ballistic missiles.

We specifically encouraged the new Government of Ukraine to take this step because these missiles pose a clear and present danger to our national security. It is a costly operation, but few are more worthwhile. It is imperative that we maintain fully funded and well-structured programs to deal with all aspects of this serious threat.

The initiatives undertaken in this area by the Department of Energy are equally essential. The International Nuclear Safety Program upgrades safety devices on Chernobyl-era nuclear reactors. Yet, its funding has been cut by \$50 million.

The Materials Protection, Control, and Accounting Program supports efforts to identify and store the nuclear materials that are most likely to be stolen. Yet, its funding is cut by \$25 million.

Under these two programs, the Department of Energy has succeeded in making tons of nuclear weapons materials secure, primarily plutonium and highly enriched uranium. Previously, these materials had not been protected by even the most elementary security precautions. These materials posed grave threats to our national security, and they still do.

Alarming public reports in recent years have mentioned cases where nuclear materials were intercepted at border crossings. We can only wonder how many shipments have gone undetected at border crossings and whether terrorists even now have custody of these materials.

The National Research Council released a report this spring on U.S. proliferation policy and the former Soviet Union. Its first and strongest recommendation is full funding for the Materials Protection, Control, and Accounting Program.