

of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 648

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 648 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 712

At the request of Mr. CLELAND the names of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] and the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. HAGEL] were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 712 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 36—COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF TUNISIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS

Mr. BREAUX submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. CON. RES. 36

Whereas August 28, 1997, will mark the 200th anniversary of the first Tunisian-American Treaty and the opening of diplomatic relations between Tunisia and the United States;

Whereas Tunisia guaranteed to the young American Republic freedom of navigation in Tunisia's territorial waters and freedom of trade with Tunisian citizens;

Whereas Tunisia supported the Allies politically and militarily during World War II and has become the final resting place of thousands of American soldiers fallen in battle;

Whereas the United States was the first great power to recognize Tunisia's independence from France in 1956;

Whereas Tunisia was a steady and reliable ally of the United States during the darkest days of the Cold War, providing naval facilities to the United States Sixth Fleet and supporting the United States at the United Nations and other international bodies;

Whereas Tunisia after independence received more aid from the United States than from any other donor country in the form of governmental loans and technical assistance;

Whereas Tunisia efficiently utilized American assistance and its own resources to drastically improve social conditions, further economic development, and establish an open market economy and a tolerant society based on the principles of democracy, social peace, and justice;

Whereas Tunisia has consistently supported a peaceful resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and United States efforts to bring peace to the Middle East; and

Whereas Tunisia and the United States have always shared mutual interests in regional security and have built a close partnership in that regard; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress hereby acknowledges with gratitude and appreciation the bicentennial of the Tunisian-American Treaty of 1797 and expresses to the people of Tunisia its hopes and wishes for continued friendship and amity between our two great nations.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this concurrent resolution to the President with the request that he further transmit a copy to the Government of Tunisia.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

CONRAD (AND DORGAN) AMENDMENT NO. 730

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. DORGAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, S. 936, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 313, line 20, strike out "(e)" and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"(e) RETENTION OF B-52H AIRCRAFT ON ACTIVE STATUS.—(1) The Secretary of the Air Force shall maintain in active status (including the performance of standard maintenance and upgrades) the current fleet of B-52H bomber aircraft. For the purposes of subsection (a), the number specified for B-52H bomber aircraft in paragraph (1) of such subsection shall be deemed to be 94. The applicability of the limitation under that subsection to the 94 B-52H bomber aircraft may not be waived under subsection (b).

"(2) For purposes of carrying out upgrades of B-52H bomber aircraft during fiscal year 1998, the Secretary shall treat the entire current fleet of such aircraft as aircraft expected to be maintained in active status during the six-year period beginning on October 1, 1997.

"(f) ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSED REDUCTION OF B-52H BOMBER AIRCRAFT FLEET.—(1) Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the National Defense Panel established under section 924 of Public Law 104-201 (110 Stat. 2626), shall—

"(A) thoroughly assess the proposed retirement of B-52H bomber aircraft to reduce the fleet of B-52H bomber aircraft to 71 such aircraft; and

"(B) submit the assessment to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on National Security of the House of Representatives.

"(2) The assessment under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

"(A) A discussion of the following matters: "(1) The operational advantages, arms control implications, and budgetary impact of employing an additional combat-coded

squadron of B-52H bomber aircraft above the level provided for in the future-years defense program submitted to Congress in fiscal year 1997, reconstituted out of the B-52H aircraft attrition reserve.

"(ii) The implications of designating and using such an additional squadron as an associate reserve squadron.

"(iii) The operational impact of an engine modernization program involving replacement of the engines on B-52H bomber aircraft with commercial, off-the-shelf engines, as assessed in accordance with the Department of Defense Appropriation Act, 1997 (title I through VIII section 101(b) of Public Law 104-208).

"(iv) The operational, arms control, and budgetary implications of modifying capabilities of aircraft comprising a portion of the fleet of B-52H bomber aircraft so that the modified aircraft have the capability to deliver only conventional munitions.

"(v) The number of B-52H aircraft that, together with other combat aircraft within the force structure, would be necessary, in a major theater war initiated with minimum advance warning, to disrupt the flow of enemy forces to the extent necessary for the United States (and any allies) to defeat advancing enemy forces in detail with the United States (or allied) forces in place as the advancing enemy forces arrive in locations to engage the United States (or allied) forces.

"(B) The views of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the Secretary's assessment.

"(C) The views of the National Defense Panel on the Secretary's assessment.

"(3) If the Secretary submits the Secretary's annual report to Congress under section 113(c) of title 10, United States Code, within 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary may include in that report the assessment required under paragraph (1).

"(g)".

COVERDELL AMENDMENT NO. 731

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. COVERDELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 936, supra; as follows:

At the end of the amendment add the following:

() LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES OF PERU AND COLOMBIA.—(1) The Secretary of Defense may exercise the authority provided in section 1022(a) only with the concurrence of the Secretary of State.

(2)(A) The Secretary may not obligate or expend funds to provide a government with support under section 1022 until the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the heads of other Federal agencies involved in international counter-drug activities, has developed a riverine counter-drug plan and submitted the plan to the committees referred to in subsection (f)(2) of such section. The plan shall set forth a riverine counter-drug program that can be sustained by the supported governments within five years, a schedule for establishing the program, and a detailed discussion of how the riverine counter-drug program supports national drug control strategy of the United States.

(B) The limitation in subparagraph (A) is in addition to the limitation in section 1022(f)(1).

THURMOND AMENDMENTS NOS. 732-733

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. THURMOND submitted two amendments intended to be proposed