

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, in response to Senator MCCAIN, there are over 891,000 men and women in uniform who serve in one of the six Reserve organizations. They represent 38 percent of the total force.

For these Reserve forces, the President's budget request contained a total of \$173 million—less than 2 percent of the total military construction bill allocated to the Reserve components.

More specifically, the National Guard military construction program supports over 474,673 soldiers and airmen in communities throughout the Nation. They constitute approximately 20 percent of our total Armed Forces and represent all 50 States and 4 territories.

The units and the missions of the Reserve components have changed significantly in the last 30 to 40 years. The mission and the equipment is much more complex and requires larger working bays and parking areas. The increased lethality and range of modern weapons restrict indirect firing ranges and training areas and creates new requirements necessary to ensure safety.

The Army Guard alone has more than 23,360 facilities, with a current plant replacement value of \$17.3 billion. Over 50 percent of these facilities are inadequate by current Army criteria. There is a construction backlog of \$2.3 billion, which as a direct impact on modernization and readiness.

The Pentagon requested only \$45 million for the Army National Guard for military construction in the fiscal year 1998 budget. There are 367,000 soldiers in the Army National Guard—\$45 million does not go very far in meeting their mission and quality of life requirements.

If the Congress did not act to provide additional military construction funding to the Reserve components each year, these forces would be severely handicapped as far as their ability to achieve full operational capability and their objective readiness level. Just because a project is for the Guard or Reserve does not mean it is not meritorious, it signifies that the Pentagon has decided to let the Congress foot the bill for building and maintaining the Reserve components' infrastructure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under a previous agreement, the Senator from Arizona has 2 minutes, 15 seconds remaining.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has yielded back his time.

Mr. BURNS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 946

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, the amendment that is now under consideration has been cleared on the Democratic side, and I ask that it be accepted at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate? If not, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 946.

The amendment (No. 946) was agreed to.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to.

Mrs. MURRAY. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask for third reading of the bill. Have the yeas and nays been ordered?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have not been requested on final passage.

Mr. BURNS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. D'AMATO. I wonder if the Chairman of the Military Construction Subcommittee, Senator BURNS, would yield for a question.

Mr. BURNS. Certainly.

Mr. D'AMATO. I appreciate all that the chairman has done to accommodate the specific needs of military installations in New York. As you know, New York has been devastated by its losses from the last two BRAC rounds. However, the one positive effect of this paring down is that the remaining bases in New York are among the most efficient and effective in the world. That is why these military construction dollars are so important to New York State.

One military base of particular concern to both Senator MOYNIHAN and myself is Fort Drum in Watertown, NY. Fort Drum is home to the 10th Mountain Division. The mission of the 10th Mountain Division is to deploy rapidly anywhere in the world and be prepared to fight and win upon arrival.

The 10th Mountain Division stands ready to depart Fort Drum and conduct operations anywhere in the world with minimal notice. The cornerstone to Fort Drum's preparedness is its high state of mission readiness. This readiness is sustained through intensive training and the most up-to-date, modern facilities.

America continually asks our soldiers around the world to respond and they are always there for us. The 10th Mountain Division is the most frequently deployed division in the Army. It is only fair that Congress appropriate the necessary dollars to ensure that our troops remain the best in the world.

Fort Drum has requested two very important projects that would greatly enhance readiness on the base and contribute to the 10th Mountain Division's extremely high response time. The first is an aerial gunnery range, funded at \$17.5 million in the House. The proposed range will be an adequately sized and properly configured aerial gunnery range for Army rotary wing and Air National Guard fixed wing joint mission requirements. The facility and range area will enable the Air National Guard and Fort Drum range division to employ operations under the joint air attack team concept [JAAT] as well as consolidate existing operations to the northeast side of Fort Drum property

for safe operations. Currently, rotary wing and fixed wing operations are conducted on separate sites across the Fort Drum installation.

The second project is a military training and education center, funded at \$6.9 million, to replace a number of widely scattered temporary 50-year old, inefficient and marginal World War II wood facilities.

The center would make a valuable contribution to improving quality of life for soldiers, dependents and civilians at Fort Drum. Without the center, the condition of aging facilities will become less able to support the function and eventually continuing education opportunities for the population of Fort Drum will be negatively impacted. Last year, the Senate included this project in its version of the fiscal year 1997 defense authorization bill.

I would hope that the House—Senate Conference Committee would include both of these important projects in the final conference report for fiscal year 1998.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, my friend and colleague, Senator D'AMATO, has clearly set out the reasons why Fort Drum needs these two projects. They are essential to the training and readiness we and the Army have come to expect from the 10th Mountain Division. It seems whenever there has been a deployment in recent years, the 10th has been part of it. I simply add my support and my hope that the gunnery range and the training and education center will be included when the Senator from Montana and his conferees reach an agreement on military construction projects.

Mr. BURNS. I can assure both Senators from New York that both projects will be given every due consideration when the conferees meet.

#### PROTECTING THE FUTURE OF PICATINNY ARSENAL

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today in strong support of the Fiscal Year 1998 military construction appropriations bill, and would like to take this opportunity to thank Chairman BURNS and Ranking Member MURRAY for all of their leadership and hard work on this legislation. I am especially pleased by two items which were included in this bill. First, the \$1.3 million which will be spent on the design of a new software engineering center at Picatinny Arsenal in my home State of New Jersey, and second, language in the bill which urges the Army to place the construction of the center on its priority list for fiscal year 1999. I am hopeful that the Army will heed the advice of the Senate, and make this project a priority for next year.

Throughout our Nation's history, Picatinny Arsenal has provided our men and women with the high-technology weapons that have helped

achieve our military victories. Most recently, during Desert Storm our forces unleashed millions of M-77 submunitions on the Iraqi Army with devastating results. This grenade-like weapon uses a precision guidance system and a mini-computer to locate its target as it descends on a parachute-like device, before it attacks and destroys it. The Iraqis were so terrified of this weapons, that they dubbed it Steel Rain. I am proud to say that this weapon was developed by some of this Nation's finest scientists and engineers at Picatinny Arsenal.

As some of my colleagues may know, Picatinny Arsenal is home to the Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center [ARDEC]. Virtually every piece of weaponry and ammunition in the hands of our soldiers is developed at Picatinny. In fact, Picatinny is responsible for 90 percent of the Army's lethality.

Currently, the Fire Support Armaments Center [FSAC], which conducts the research, development, and engineering for weapons systems such as artillery, mortars, and the technology behind the fire control for the entire U.S. Army, has its functions dispersed at several facilities throughout the base. While our Armed Forces in general, and the Army in particular, have been subject to drastic downsizing in the post-cold-war era, the Fire Support Armaments Center workload has increased as our modern army relies increasingly on "smart" weapon technology. However, while the Center is responsible for a critical area of expertise in our national security plan, its economic and productive effectiveness is severely limited because its operations are dispersed throughout the base. This, combined with the limited space available, makes work on the larger vehicles like tanks and armored personnel carriers impossible in all but the best of weather conditions and makes coordination on the many different components of any given project nearly impossible.

To remedy this, a new software engineering center has been proposed which would consolidate many of the Arsenal's operations, thus allowing work on these vehicles to proceed year round and enhancing Picatinny's capability to test and upgrade "smart" weapons. The proposed Software Engineering Center would also provide the Army with the ability to upgrade-technologically existing weapons systems, respond rapidly to problems encountered in the field, and save the Pentagon money. The Army estimates that this consolidation will also save \$5 million a year, allowing the project to pay for itself in 3 years. I am pleased by the Senate's support of the center, and look forward to working with the subcommittee and the Army to ensure that this state-of-the-art facility becomes a reality.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, the pending military construction appropriations bill provides \$9.183 billion in

new budget authority and \$3.064 in new outlays for military construction and family housing programs for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 1998.

When outlays from prior-year budget authority and other completed actions are taken into account, the outlays for the 1998 program total \$9.902 billion.

This legislation provides for construction by the Department of Defense for U.S. military facilities throughout the world, and it provides for family housing for the active forces of each of the U.S. military services. Accordingly, it provides for important readiness and quality of life programs for our service men and women.

The bill falls within the revised section 602(b) allocation for the Military Construction Subcommittee. I commend the distinguished subcommittee chairman, the Senator from Montana, for bringing this bill to the floor within the subcommittee's revised allocation.

The bill provides important increases over the President's request for 1998, and I urge the adoption of the conference report.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a table showing the relationship of the conference report to the subcommittee's section 602(b) allocation be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the table was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

H.R. 2016, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS,  
1998

[Spending Totals—Senate-Reported Bill; fiscal year 1998, in millions of dollars]

Category	Defense	Non-defense	Crime	Mandatory	Total
Senate-reported bill:					
Budget authority .....	9,183	.....	.....	.....	9,183
Outlays .....	9,902	.....	.....	.....	9,902
Senate 602(b) allocation:					
Budget authority .....	9,183	.....	.....	.....	9,183
Outlays .....	9,920	.....	.....	.....	9,920
President's request:					
Budget authority .....	8,384	.....	.....	.....	8,384
Outlays .....	9,839	.....	.....	.....	9,839
House-passed bill:					
Budget authority .....	9,183	.....	.....	.....	9,183
Outlays .....	9,909	.....	.....	.....	9,909
SENATE-REPORTED BILL COMPARED TO					
Senate 602(b) allocation:					
Budget authority .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Outlays .....	(18)	.....	.....	.....	(18)
President's request:					
Budget authority .....	799	.....	.....	.....	799
Outlays .....	63	.....	.....	.....	63
House-passed bill:					
Budget authority .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Outlays .....	(7)	.....	.....	.....	(7)

Note: Details may not add to totals due to rounding. Totals adjusted for consistency with current scorekeeping conventions.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the military construction appropriation bill before us today. Senator BURNS and Senator MURRAY are to be congratulated on crafting a measure that adequately meets our military needs while at the same time addressing the pressing concerns of our soldiers.

Mr. President, at a time when our services are having difficulty meeting their recruiting goals and retention is suffering, it is more important than

ever that the military address quality of life issues. Unfortunately, the administration has chosen to ignore the reality and not budget the appropriate resources for this goal.

The budget for all military construction contained in the Senate bill totals just over \$9 billion, almost \$800,000 above what the administration requested. As anyone who has visited some of our installations can tell you, this money is desperately needed.

I salute the work of Senators BURNS and MURRAY as well as their staffs. Their ability to prioritize within the declining budget is crucial to improving the everyday lives of our soldiers and their families. Mr. President, if we are going to continue to ask more from our military around the world, the very least we can do is to provide them with adequate housing and facilities. In addition, it should be pointed out that the committee worked with both the House and Senate authorizing committees and did not appropriate funds for any project that was not authorized.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting this excellent bill.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to express my strong support for several New Jersey projects included in the Senate's version of the fiscal year 1998 military construction appropriations, as well as several New Jersey projects included in the House version of this legislation. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I hope all of these projects will be included in the final version of the bill.

I appreciate the willingness of the chairman and ranking member to include \$1.3 million in design funding for a new software engineering facility at Picatinny Arsenal. This funding will allow the Picatinny to consolidate the design, development, testing, configuration control, field release and maintenance of weapon systems, simulators, and trainers. It will result in reduced cost for the Army and will improve efficiency in the software engineering process.

I also appreciate the willingness of the Senate subcommittee to provide funding for two important projects at McGuire Air Force Base. The Senate's bill includes \$9.954 million for an air mobility operations group warehouse, which will increase the efficiency of the base's mobility operations. Additionally, it includes \$35.217 million for an ambulatory health care center replacement. This new facility will house a full-service outpatient operation and provide adequate space for clinics, ambulatory surgery, ancillary services, storage, offices, and administration. It will improve the quality of care provided to our military personnel.

In addition, the House version of this bill provides \$9.03 million for an ammunition supply point at Fort Dix, \$8.8 million for a fire station at McGuire Air Force Base, \$2.05 million for a fire station at Fort Monmouth, and \$7.3 million to build 35 units of family housing at Picatinny Arsenal. These

are meritorious projects that deserve the support of the conferees. I hope the conferees to this bill will agree to include these projects to improve the quality of life and to support the missions at New Jersey's military installations in the final version of this legislation.

These projects are vital to New Jersey's defense infrastructure, and to those who work on these bases. I hope the chairman and ranking member will support these important New Jersey projects in the conference agreement to the fiscal year 1998 military construction bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the committee amendments are considered and agreed to en bloc.

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment of the amendments and third reading of the bill.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair informs the Senator from Washington that she has 5 minutes, 29 seconds remaining on her time. Does she wish to use it or yield it back?

Mrs. MURRAY. I yield my time back.

Mr. BURNS. I yield my time back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Shall the bill, H.R. 2016, as amended, pass? The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 192 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Abraham	Faircloth	Lott
Akaka	Feingold	Lugar
Allard	Feinstein	Mack
Ashcroft	Ford	McConnell
Baucus	Frist	Mikulski
Bennett	Glenn	Moseley-Braun
Biden	Gorton	Moynihan
Bingaman	Graham	Murkowski
Bond	Gramm	Murray
Boxer	Grassley	Nickles
Breaux	Gregg	Reed
Brownback	Hagel	Reid
Bryan	Harkin	Robb
Bumpers	Hatch	Roberts
Burns	Helms	Rockefeller
Byrd	Hollings	Roth
Campbell	Hutchinson	Santorum
Chafee	Hutchison	Sarbanes
Cleland	Inhofe	Sessions
Coats	Inouye	Shelby
Cochran	Jeffords	Smith (NH)
Collins	Johnson	Smith (OR)
Conrad	Kempthorne	Snowe
Coverdell	Kennedy	Specter
Craig	Kerry	Stevens
D'Amato	Kohl	Thomas
Daschle	Kohls	Thompson
DeWine	Landrieu	Thurmond
Dodd	Lautenberg	Torricelli
Domenici	Leahy	Warner
Dorgan	Levin	Wellstone
Durbin	Lieberman	Wyden
Enzi		

NAYS—2

Kyl  
McCain

The bill (H.R. 2016), as amended, was passed.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mrs. MURRAY. I move to lay it on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KEMPTHORNE). Under a previous order, the Senate insists on its amendments, requests a conference with the House, and the Chair appoints the following conferees.

The Presiding Officer appointed Mr. BURNS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. STEVENS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. INOUIE, and Mr. BYRD, conferees on the part of the Senate.

Mr. BURNS. I thank Senator MURRAY's staff, Dick D'Amato, Emelie East, and also on my staff Sid Ashworth, Kelly Hartline, and Jennifer Chartrand. I also thank Ben McMakin and Mazie Mattson. It was a pleasure working with these folks. They did the majority of the work.

I yield the floor.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under a previous order, the clerk will report Senate bill 1034, the VA-HUD appropriations bill.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1034) making appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. TORRICELLI. Thank you, Mr. President.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, with the first phase of the hearings of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee into the abuses of the electoral process through campaign fundraising having just concluded, and the second phase about to begin, it is perhaps an appropriate time to reflect on those things that we have learned in these first few weeks and those questions that remain.

It is, I think, important to note that despite some incentive for partisanship, a tendency by the media to sometimes reach conclusions before the facts, and a persistent failure of some witnesses to cooperate, the committee has begun its work, I think, in the best traditions of the Senate. Democrats and Republicans are working together. We do have a common objective, and I think we are doing service to the institution.

These things, however, have already been learned. First, it is a result of insufficient management and poor decisionmaking and the continuing upward spiral of pressure to raise campaign funds, the Democratic National Committee made a series of bad decisions during the last election that clearly resulted in some violations of Federal law and were a disservice both to the President and the Democratic Party. Among these were the inadequacy of any process of checking the names or backgrounds of contributors or the sources of their funds. The good work of some members of the Democratic National Committee and its staff was compromised, unfortunately, by the addition of some inexperienced people who were not properly supervised or trained for their positions. John Huang was clearly among them, and it is now clear from testimony before the committee that there is a substantial chance that the result was a violation of Federal law.

Second, it is also becoming clear that the Chinese Government, the People's Republic of China, as a result or in reaction to the visit of President Li of Taiwan to the United States, planned and potentially embarked upon a plan to influence the 1996 Federal election. It is clear from the evidence provided to date that this plan targeted neither political party in particular, but probably both in general. It seems to have been primarily designed to influence the U.S. Congress. It is unclear to date the extent of those designs on the Presidential election. It is also clear that that plan involved both legal and potentially illegal means to accomplish its goal. The extent of its success, to what extent it was achieved, is not at this point known. The fact that it existed and there were any intentions implemented is disturbing enough to warrant the committee's investigation.

Third, it is established, I believe, at this point, to at least some degree of satisfaction, that the illegal activities that may have been embarked upon by John Huang or others to seek and receive foreign contributions or otherwise violate Federal Election Commission regulations and the laws of the United States with regard to fundraising were not either known or encouraged by senior personnel at the Democratic National Committee. Richard Sullivan, who was the direct superior of Mr. Huang, denied under oath that there was any plan by the Democratic National Committee to solicit Chinese or other foreign contributions. It is, however, clear Mr. Huang's activities were not sufficiently monitored or known as should have been the case in an organization of the importance of the Democratic National Committee.

Fourth, John Huang's own activities raise substantial suspicion. It is not enough for the committee to conclude that it was not properly supervised or to take any comfort in the fact that his superiors or other people in either