

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All points of order are reserved on the bill.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4577, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 4425, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 4425) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES OFFERED BY MR. OLVER

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct the conferees.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. OLVER moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill, H.R. 4425, be instructed to disagree with the Senate amendment and provide funding for National Missile Defense Initial Deployment Facilities at a level equal to the lower level as provided in the House passed bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER).

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this is a simple motion. It should not be controversial. These United States are on the verge of embarking on what could be a \$60 billion National Missile Defense program. This House included more than adequate funding to start the early lead construction items of the National Missile Defense as it is now conceived. The other Chamber has funded this item at a substantially and unnecessarily higher level.

This motion instructs the conferees to insist on the more prudent level of spending in the House bill; 367 Members of the House supported this level of spending when we passed the bill several weeks ago, and it is important that we maintain our position.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to the amendment of the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER) and would urge its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER).

The motion was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

For consideration of the House bill, and Division A of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

Messrs. HOBSON, PORTER, TIAHRT, WALSH, MILLER of Florida, ADERHOLT, Ms. GRANGER, and Messrs. GOODE, YOUNG of Florida, OLVER, EDWARDS, FARR of California, BOYD, DICKS, and OBEY;

For consideration of the Division B of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. YOUNG of Florida, REGULA, LEWIS of California, ROGERS, SKEEN, CALLAHAN, OBEY, MURTHA, and Ms. PELOSI and Ms. KAPTUR.

There was no objection.

□ 2340

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

INDIA IN NEED OF THIS COUNTRY'S ASSISTANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) is recognized for half the time until midnight as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I take the well at this very late hour because I want to talk about an issue that is, I think, vitally important not only to

this country but to the stability of peace in the world community.

I had the occasion to take a trip with my wife and several others to Pakistan in India, and to Kashmir about a month, or month and a half ago, and it indeed was one of the more interesting things I have done in my 28 years of political life. I came away more convinced than ever that the United States has a proactive role to play in helping with the challenges that are faced in South Asia.

I think everyone now is aware that South Asia is a nuclear flash point; that the Indian Government and the Pakistanis have fought now three times since partition in 1947 from the British, and as a result of those wars, the recent skirmish in addition to that in the Kargil region, which claimed a thousand lives this past summer, it is a very dangerous place, with both countries now having the nuclear capability to destroy each other and inflict incredible destruction on not only that region of the world but the planet in general. So it seems to me that we need as a Nation and as a world community to focus our attention more and more on bringing peace and stability to the people of Kashmir. It is clearly in their interest.

The people of Kashmir have suffered through 50 years of broken promises. If we recall our history, the United Nations called for a plebiscite on self-determination in Kashmir in 1948, but of course that has never been carried out, and this legacy of neglect has fostered distrust, it has fostered hopelessness among many in Kashmir, especially the Muslim majority, which has spawned a cycle of protest and of violence and of repression.

As many as up to 70,000 Kashmiris in the last decade have died as a result of this war that is going on in their country. It is an incredibly beautiful place. Lush green valleys, enormously pristine sparkling lakes surrounded by the Himalayas' snow-capped mountains. Its beauty is only contrasted by the pain and the suffering of indeed this brutal repression and war that is raging now that, as I have said, has claimed as many, some say up to 70,000 lives. A staggering total.

Indian security forces number in the neighborhood of somewhere between 500,000 and 700,000 troops in the States of Kashmir and Jammu, and they wage, along with the militants who are crossing the border and fighting in this region, a day-to-day campaign of terror and repression. And the Kashmiri people are caught in the middle. The human rights abuses are every bit as outrageous and repugnant as they have been in the Balkans as we have seen recently. The number of rapes and torture and all the things that go along with this type of international catastrophe is present in Kashmir.

Independent human rights' groups report on these rapes and these tortures. Often they are not allowed into Kashmir. Amnesty International is not, and