

in southern Nevada and believe that S. 1451, which my committee reported favorably with amendment, is a good bill. The two primary concerns raised by many interested parties were that the original bill would have released land from wilderness study area status and that the parcel of land conveyed was possibly too large, and therefore the bill might set an unfortunate precedent on those two issues.

Mr. REID. As the chairman knows, we worked together on these two issues and developed a compromise solution that he, Senator MURKOWSKI, Senator ENSIGN, Congressman GIBBONS, Congresswoman BERKLEY, Clark County and I could all support. The compromise included conveying the full 2800 acres to Clark County but requiring that only the core of the area, 640 acres, be developed for facilities and that the remainder of the area remain as open space to serve as a valuable buffer around the range. This compromise if completely consistent with Clark County's intended use of the land because the county realizes the absolute necessity of having a substantial buffer around a shooting range. In fact, the county provided their plans for the facility, which embody the compromise.

As I have noted many times on the floor of the Senate, Clark County has nearly doubled in population from 770,000 to more than 1.4 million people since 1990. This growth has placed greater demands on public lands throughout Clark County for recreational activities such as hunting, fishing and target shooting. There are literally dozens, if not hundreds, of makeshift shooting ranges across Las Vegas Valley that pose extreme danger to nearby homes and our increasingly busy roads. This facility will provide a great public benefit by creating a safe centralized location for this important purpose. It will enhance public safety by reducing indiscriminate shooting. The need for this shooting range is crystal clear and I am grateful that the chairman has recognized the urgency associated with this issue.

In addition, I would like the RECORD to reflect that the issue of wilderness study area release is now a moot point because the wilderness study area in question was released earlier this month when President Bush signed the Clark County Conservation of Public Lands and Natural Resources Act into law. Public law 107-282 designated about 450,000 acres as wilderness and released 220,000 acres from wilderness study area consideration in Clark County. Having made this point, I would like to ask the chairman whether he shares my view that no precedent could be set on the issue of wilderness study area release given that there is no wilderness study area in existence?

Mr. BINGAMAN. I do share that view and appreciate the fact that wilderness study area release is no longer a concern in this legislation.

Mr. REID. I appreciate the chairman's concurrence on that point and

his leadership on this and other public land related issues very much. We now face a dilemma. The very good Clark County Shooting Range bill that was earlier reported by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee cannot pass this year because the House of Representatives has gone home for the year. However, the House passed a similar bill earlier this year. The substantive difference in the House bill is that it does not include the buffer requirement we put in the Senate version of the bill. Given that we agree that no wilderness study area precedents can be set here, and given that the county's plan for the range were used to create our buffer compromise. I hope the chairman might allow for the passage of the House version of this bill so that this important project can be started this year.

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL EDUCATION ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 444 S. 281; that the Bingaman amendment which is at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the committee-reported amendment, as amended, be agreed to; the motion to reconsider by laid upon the table; and there be no intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there an objection?

Mr. BENNETT. On behalf of several Senators on this side, I do object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The objection is heard.

Mr. REID. I am disappointed. The morning is early but there will be no speeches.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar No. 1137, Air Force promotions, with the exception of COL Bruce E. Burda, 0432, and COL Stephen L. Lanning, 6225; Calendar Nos. 1180 through 1186, and the nominations placed on the Secretary's desk; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

AIR FORCE

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Colonel Christ T. Anzalone, 9968
Colonel Dana T. Atkins, 1173
Colonel Philip M. Breedlove, 5587
Colonel Bradley W. Butler, 1210
Colonel Robert E. Dehnert, Jr., 2210
Colonel Delwyn R. Eulberg, 8929
Colonel Maurice H. Forsyth, 5072
Colonel Patrick D. Gillett, Jr., 1889
Colonel Sandra A. Gregory, 5776
Colonel Gregory J. Ihde, 1040
Colonel Kevin J. Kennedy, 0042
Colonel Lyle M. Koenig, Jr., 2231
Colonel Ronald R. Ladnier, 6699
Colonel Erwin F. Lessel, III, 5416
Colonel John W. Maluda, 2572
Colonel Mark T. Matthews, 6697
Colonel Gary T. McCoy, 2911
Colonel Kimber L. McKenzie, 0844
Colonel Stephen J. Miller, 1561
Colonel Richard Y. Newton, III, 8008
Colonel Thomas J. Owen, 4009
Colonel Richard E. Perraut, Jr., 4091
Colonel Polly A. Peyer, 0565
Colonel Douglas L. Raaberg, 5158
Colonel Robertus C.N. Remkes, 8917
Colonel Eric J. Rosborg, 2128
Colonel Paul J. Selva, 5397
Colonel Mark E. Stearns, 2739
Colonel Thomas E. Stickford, 4263
Colonel Johnny A. Weida, 0541
Colonel Thomas B. Wright, 4649

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Arthur James Collingsworth, of California, to be a Member of the National Security Education Board for a term of four years.

AIR FORCE

The following named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brigadier General Richard C. Collins, 4411
Brigadier General Scott R. Nichols, 8603
Brigadier General David A. Robinson, 7497
Brigadier General Mark V. Rosenker, 1990
Brigadier General Charles E. Stenner, Jr., 3274
Brigadier General Thomas D. Taverney, 6191
Brigadier General Kathy E. Thomas, 0940

To be Brigadier general

Colonel Ricardo Aponte, 0713
Colonel Frank J. Casserino, 3455
Colonel Charles D. Ethredge, 1223
Colonel Thomas M. Gisler, Jr., 1300
Colonel James W. Graves, 4813
Colonel John M. Howlett, 8450
Colonel Martin M. Mazick, 0371
Colonel Hanferd J. Moen, Jr., 4733
Colonel James M. Mungenast, 7850
Colonel Jack W. Ramsaur, II, 8374
Colonel David N. Senty, 6128
Colonel Bradley C. Young, 0584

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Arthur J. Lichte, 5483

ARMY

The following Army National Guard officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grades indicated under title 10, U.S.C., Section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Colonel Terry W. Saltsman, 7338