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Senate

The Senate met at 9:31 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SAM BROWBACK, a Senator from the State of Kansas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by Rabbi Arnold E. Resnicoff, U.S. Navy, Retired.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

O Lord who taught us all to love our neighbors as ourselves, we pause now, before this Senate session starts, to recall that on this day—in 1881—and in this city—Washington, DC—Clara Barton and a group of friends founded the American Red Cross.

To love our neighbor as ourselves . . . and then, to not sit idly by that neighbor's blood—the suffering that he or she endures—without doing what we can to ease the burden and the pain, has been the call to which so many Red Cross workers have responded since that day, throughout our land; and reaching out to those who serve in our Armed Forces overseas—throughout the world, as well.

Almighty God, we give our thanks for those who give their all, who do their best to comfort those in pain. But we pray as well to be inspired by their work, to understand we all can make a difference in our neighbors' lives, a difference in our Nation's strength, a difference in our world. Help us help one another do our part to build the world of peace, the time of joy, for which we pray. And may we say, Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SAM BROWBACK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2003.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SAM BROWBACK, a Senator from the State of Kansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWBACK thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader, the Senator from Colorado, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, the Senate will resume debate on the national Defense authorization bill for fiscal year 2004. Under the previous order, there will be 20 minutes remaining for debate in relation to the first- and second-degree amendments which are pending to the Defense bill. Following that debate, the Senate will vote in relation to the Warner second-degree amendment regarding low-yield nuclear weapons. Senators should therefore expect the first rollcall vote to occur at approximately 10 o'clock this morning.

Following the disposition of these amendments, additional amendments are expected, and therefore rollcall votes are expected throughout the day. It is still hoped we will be able to com-

plete action on this important legislation during today's session.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we also hope to finish at least the amendments we know of that deal with things nuclear on this bill. Senator DORGAN is standing by, ready to offer the next amendment. He has indicated he would agree to a time limit. I believe the amendment has been shown to the other side to see if they would be willing to enter into a reasonable time limit. Last night, he suggested an hour and a half equally divided. We will submit that to staff and see if we can get something worked out and agree to that in a short time, hopefully before the vote takes place.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1050, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1050) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2004 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.

Pending:

Reed amendment No. 751, to modify the scope of the prohibition on research and development of low-yield nuclear weapons.

Warner amendment No. 752 (to amendment No. 751), in the nature of a substitute.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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