

incumbent upon all of us, I trust, to get this bill to a conference between the House and the Senate, work out our differences so we can vote on a conference report and allow this underlying bill now changed to get to our President's desk.

Having said that, let me thank everyone for the work they have done. This is a very busy schedule. But let me also echo what the minority leader said. It does not stop other Members who feel they must offer amendments from bringing those to the floor. I said early on today we wanted an open process, amendments voted on, but at the end of the day we wanted to vote on final passage. We helped facilitate that by this agreement, and I appreciate the work done by our leaders.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I was just reminded by floor staff that the Reed amendment is, in fact, the McCain-Reed amendment. I ask consent that the agreement we just reached be so modified.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Democratic whip.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I feel constrained to say that we have been in a quorum call now for 4 hours 10 minutes, but that does not take away from the fact that people have been working very hard during this entire period of time, plus earlier this day. I personally extend my appreciation to the two leaders, the Republican leader and the Democratic leader, for working with us. Senator FRIST is not on the floor tonight. We have been in constant contact with him during the evening.

I also want to say that Senator REED, my counterpart from Rhode Island, has been representing those people who are extremely concerned about this issue, probably 12, 15 Senators. He has been extremely helpful, as he always is. He has represented his cause in the most efficient way. Without his cooperation and work, Senator DASCHLE and I could not be at the point where we are today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### REPORT PURSUANT TO WAR POWERS RESOLUTION

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the attached report from the President of the United States be printed in the RECORD, consistent with the War Powers Resolution.

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

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, February 25, 2004.

Hon. TED STEVENS,  
President pro tempore of the Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Increasing armed rebellion in Haiti, the limited effectiveness of the Haitian National Police, and insecurity in Port-au-Prince brought on by increased armed pro-government gang activity have contributed to a climate of insecurity for the U.S. Embassy and its supporting facilities in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. These circumstances and the potential for further deterioration of the security environment in Haiti render the safety of the U.S. Embassy, its facilities, and U.S. personnel uncertain.

On February 23, 2004, a security force of approximately 55 U.S. military personnel from the U.S. Joint Forces Command deployed to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to augment the Embassy security forces.

Although the U.S. forces are equipped for combat, this movement was undertaken solely for the purpose of protecting American citizens and property. It is anticipated that U.S. forces will provide this support until such time as it is determined that the security situation has stabilized and the threat to the Embassy, its facilities, and U.S. personnel has ended.

I have taken this action pursuant to my constitutional authority to conduct U.S. foreign relations and as Commander in Chief and Chief Executive. I am providing this report as part of my efforts to keep the Congress informed, consistent with the War Powers Resolution.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH.

#### CONGRATULATING VIRGINIA SCHUYLER

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to congratulate Virginia Schuyler, a woman from my hometown of Aberdeen, SD, who has dedicated her life to helping those in need. Virginia is the recipient of South Dakota's 2003 Outstanding Older Worker Award, an honor bestowed by Experience Works, an organization committed to improving the lives of seniors in South Dakota through quality job training and employment programs.

Virginia decided early on that she wanted to be a nurse. From a very young age, Virginia knew she wanted to travel. When her mother told her that nurses travel on boats and planes, her mind was made up. For 60 years she has been a registered nurse, and she has traveled all over the world. For the past 5 years, Virginia, 81, has cared for residents at the Bethesda Towne Square, an assisted living facility. The residents there deeply appreciate her dedication—she insists on working every weekend—as well as everything she does for them, activities that range from bringing them hot tea at night to painting stained-glass windows for the residents in her spare time.

Virginia earned an RN degree in 1943. She joined the U.S. Army, serving in England, France, and Germany, and recalls treating as many as 500 patients

daily from the Normandy invasion in France. After her discharge from the Army, she stayed in Germany, where her volunteer work at an orphanage led her to adopt two children who were on the brink of starvation. In 1954, she earned an RN in Pathology degree, the equivalent of a master's degree, from St. Joseph's Hospital in Burbank, CA.

After she earned her pathology degree, Virginia worked in pathology for 7 years at St. Joseph's Hospital, and at St. Luke's Hospital in Aberdeen for 25 years. She also spent 5 years working with Alzheimer's patients at Arcadia in Aberdeen. Today, in addition to her work at Bethesda Towne Square, Virginia works between 30 and 50 hours a week on her stained-glass window business, and acts as her church secretary.

I join Virginia's many admirers in congratulating her on receiving this prestigious and well-deserved award.

#### TAIWAN

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, over recent months, aggressive rhetoric has escalated across the Taiwan Strait. In response to Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian's pledge to hold a nationwide referendum "to demand that the Taiwan Strait issue be resolved through peaceful means," Chinese officials have threatened the use of force. Prime Minister Wen Jiabao of the People's Republic of China has stated that China will "crush" any attempts by Taiwan to seek independence and that it will "pay any price to safeguard the unity of the motherland." In addition on November 20, 2003, PRC Major General Wang Zaixi was quoted saying that "the use of force may become unavoidable" in dealing with Taiwan. On February 11, 2004, Chinese officials stated the referendum would "provoke confrontation."

Threats of violence by the People's Republic of China only undermine efforts to resolve longstanding China-Taiwan tensions. Intimidation and warnings of bloodshed have taken the place of constructive dialogue. I fear that these threats will only intensify as Taiwan's presidential elections on March 20, 2004, draw nearer.

In the midst of this bellicose rhetoric, I express my support for the people of Taiwan and to compliment the Taiwanese people and their leadership for the great strides they have made in strengthening their democracy. Since 2000, with the first peaceful transfer of power from one political party to another in Taiwan's history, Taiwan's democracy has thrived. The U.S. State Department's annual Human Rights Reports for 2002 reported that the government of Taiwan largely respected the independence of both the judiciary and press in practice and stated, "Taiwan's strides were also notable, with consolidation and improvement of civil liberties catching up to its free and open electoral system." Transparency International has ranked Taiwan's