

terror, but many individuals on our home front are fighting for their lives. I yield the floor.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask for third reading of the bill.

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 to be read a third time.

The bill was read a third time.

Mr. STEVENS. We have already ordered the yeas and nays. This is final passage, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass? The yeas and nays have been previously ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) is necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 149 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Akaka	Dodd	Lincoln
Alexander	Dole	Lott
Allard	Domenici	McCain
Allen	Dorgan	McConnell
Baucus	Durbin	Mikulski
Bayh	Edwards	Miller
Bennett	Ensign	Murkowski
Biden	Enzi	Murray
Bingaman	Feingold	Nelson (FL)
Bond	Feinstein	Nelson (NE)
Boxer	Fitzgerald	Nickles
Breaux	Frist	Pryor
Brownback	Graham (FL)	Reed
Bunning	Graham (SC)	Reid
Burns	Grassley	Roberts
Byrd	Gregg	Rockefeller
Campbell	Hagel	Santorum
Cantwell	Harkin	Sarbanes
Carper	Hatch	Schumer
Chafee	Hollings	Sessions
Chambliss	Hutchison	Shelby
Clinton	Inhofe	Smith
Cochran	Inouye	Snowe
Coleman	Jeffords	Specter
Collins	Johnson	Stabenow
Conrad	Kennedy	Stevens
Cornyn	Kohl	Sununu
Corzine	Kyl	Talent
Craig	Landrieu	Thomas
Crapo	Lautenberg	Voivovich
Daschle	Leahy	Warner
Dayton	Levin	Wyden
DeWine	Lieberman	

NOT VOTING—2

Kerry Lugar

The bill (H.R. 4613), as amended, was passed.

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

Mr. STEVENS. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. INOUE. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, on behalf of my good friend and co-chair-

man, I thank the Senate for coming together so quickly behind this enormous bill. This is the largest Defense appropriations bill in history, but it takes into account the needs of our men and women in uniform throughout the world. As I said, some 120 different countries have our men and women in uniform. It takes care of the great problems for those men and women in harm's way.

We thank all of our colleagues for their support and for their confidence in this bill. I again thank the staff.

I am overawed by the fact that it is a unanimous vote on this unanimous bill. I think it is a symbol to the country that we are willing to come together in times of crisis.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes, and the Chair then appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

There being no objection, the Presiding Officer (Mr. CHAMBLISS) appointed Mr. STEVENS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BOND, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. GREGG, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BURNS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REID, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I congratulate Chairman STEVENS and the ranking member of the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee on the passage of the bill. It is my understanding this is one of the fastest, if not the fastest, Defense appropriations bills ever considered in the Senate. I thank them. I will have more to say a little bit later tonight about this.

RENEWAL OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS IN THE BURMESE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2003

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. J. Res. 39, the Burma import restrictions bill. I further ask unanimous consent that the statutory time limit be yielded back, and the joint resolution be read a third time and placed back on the Senate calendar. I further ask unanimous consent that the Senate then proceed to the immediate consideration of H. J. Res. 97, the House Burma resolution, and that all time be yielded back, and the Senate proceed to a vote on the resolution, with no intervening action or debate.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. What do these resolutions do?

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, last year, the Senate passed a resolution imposing sanctions on the thug regime that has been running Burma for the

last 25 years. It comes up for annual renewal, much like the most-favored-nation procedure we used to apply to China. This is that resolution renewing the sanctions for another year.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the Senator. I thought there was another resolution the Senator mentioned.

Mr. REID. We are going to do that one next.

Mr. BYRD. That was all, Mr. President, this one resolution?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I am sorry, I did not hear.

Mr. BYRD. The Burma resolution, is that the only resolution to which the Senator referred?

Mr. MCCONNELL. Yes, the only resolution.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Will the distinguished Senator from Kentucky modify his request to allow for a 10-minute vote rather than the normal 15 minutes?

Mr. MCCONNELL. That is perfectly acceptable.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. There will be a 10-minute vote on this resolution.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S. J. Res. 39) approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the joint resolution will be returned to the calendar.

The clerk will report H. J. Res. 97.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H. J. Res. 97) approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I am pleased to support S.J. Res. 39, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003. I am a cosponsor of this resolution, and I believe that these sanctions must be renewed.

The resolution states that the State Peace and Development Council, SPDC, the military junta of Burma, has failed to make substantial progress toward implementing a democratic government and that import sanctions and other restrictions against the SPDC must remain in force until "Burma embarks on an irreversible path of reconciliation that includes the full and unfettered participation of the National League for Democracy and ethnic minorities in the country."

The situation in Burma remains disturbing. The military junta in Burma continues to commit egregious human

rights abuses against its population. Human rights organizations have documented the systematic rape of Shan women on a massive scale by Burmese military forces and the recruitment of children, as young as 11, into the Burmese national army. Torture, extra judicial executions, forced labor and widespread political repression all characterize the Burmese political landscape. Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of the National League for Democracy, NLD, and other senior NLD members remain under house arrest. Approximately 1,300 political activists, including elected members of parliament, languish in Burmese prisons, as punishment for their nonviolent pursuit of democracy.

Despite the SPDC's announcement of a new political initiative, a "roadmap" to democracy, they continue to break their promises of political reform. On May 17, 2003, the junta opened a constitutional convention that the junta promoted as being a first step toward democracy and democratic elections. The NLD boycotted this convention, after the junta refused to free Aung San Suu Kyi. The SPDC's continuation of the convention without the key political parties of the NLD and the United Nationalities Alliance, a group of ethnic parties that participated in the 1990 elections, demonstrates the emptiness of the SPDC's commitments to reform.

The military junta not only creates hardship for the Burmese people, but threatens stability in the region and beyond. Reports have emerged that Burma and North Korea have reestablished military and trade links after a termination of diplomatic relations in 1983. The U.S. State Department accused North Korea of seeking to sell surface to surface missiles to Burma's government and reported that Washington was aware that the Burmese regime is interested in acquiring a nuclear research reactor.

In addition, Burma continues to be a primary source of narcotics in Asia, as one of the world's largest trafficker of methamphetamine and second largest producer of opium. In their International Narcotics Strategy report for 2003, the U.S. State Department reported that major Wa traffickers, of the ethnic Wa group in northeastern Shan State, continue to operate with apparent impunity. In addition, in the Annual Presidential Determinations of Major Illicit Drug-Producing and Drug-Transit Countries for 2003, the President designated Burma as having "failed demonstrably" to make substantial counter-narcotics efforts. According to U.S. State Department, the government of Burma continued to be deficient in dismantling drug organizations, attacking drug-related corruption and addressing money-laundering issues. Officials in China, Thailand and India have expressed serious concerns about illicit drugs flooding into their countries from Burma and the increase of drug addiction among their youth.

Human trafficking in Burma is also of enormous concern. In the State Department's Trafficking in Persons report for 2004, Burma was placed in Tier 3, a category for those countries which are not in compliance with the minimum standards of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2003 and are not making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance. According to the State Department, not only is Burma a source country for persons trafficked for forced labor and sexual exploitation, but government officials and the military are complicit in trafficking. Human Rights Watch states, "recruiters for Burma's army frequently apprehend boys at train and bus stations, markets and other public places, threatening them with jail if they refuse to join the army. . . . After brutal training, child soldiers are deployed into units, where some are forced to fight against ethnic armed opposition groups."

Adding to regional instability, over 1.6 million person have fled Burma due to persecution and violence. In addition, it is estimated that there are between 600,000 and 1 million internally displaced persons within the country.

The United States and its international partners, including the United Nations, ASEAN and the European Union must persist in their demands for political reform in Burma. The renewal of these sanctions sends a powerful message to Burma that the United States is not satisfied with their facade of democratization. I also strongly urge the European Union to strengthen their existing sanctions on Burma. The SPDC must take immediate steps to release Aung Sang Suu Kyi and other political prisoners and to create a broad-based democratic government that respects human rights and the rule of law.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I commend Senators MCCONNELL and FEINSTEIN for their efforts to renew sanctions contained in last year's Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act. I am proud to be an original cosponsor.

The world's democracies have a common moral obligation to promote human rights. In few places is the lack of freedom and justice more appalling than in Burma, a country in which a band of thugs, led by General Than Shwe, controls the population through violence and terror. The Burmese regime has a record of unchecked repression. It has murdered political opponents, used child soldiers and forced labor, and employed rape as a weapon of war. Last year, the Burmese military junta launched an orchestrated, violent attack against democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi and hundreds of her supporters. Since then, the regime has kept more than 1,000 political activists imprisoned, including elected members of parliament.

Aung San Suu Kyi remains a captive. Because she stands for democracy, this heroic woman has endured attacks, arrest, captivity, and untold sufferings at

the hands of the regime. The junta fears Aung San Suu Kyi because of what she represents—peace, freedom, and justice for all Burmese people. The thugs who run Burma have tried to stifle her voice, but they will never extinguish her moral courage. Her leadership and example shines brightly for the millions of Burmese who hunger for freedom, and for those of us outside Burma who seek justice for its people. She recently celebrated her 50th birthday, under house arrest.

Last month, the National League for Democracy courageously boycotted the junta's so-called "National Convention." The government portrayed this sham convention as the first step in a "roadmap to democracy," but it is clear that it is intended to blunt international pressure, rather than as a serious step in a democratic process. No "roadmap to democracy" will have any credibility so long as Aung Suu Kyi remains in confinement.

The work of Aung San Suu Kyi and the members of the National League for Democracy must be the world's work. We must continue to press the junta until it is willing to negotiate an irreversible transition to democratic rule. The Burmese people deserve no less.

In recognition of this, last year the Congress overwhelmingly passed the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act. In doing so, we took active steps to pressure the military junta, and we sent a signal to the Burmese people that they are not forgotten—that the American people care about their freedom and will stand up for justice in their country.

For this reason I stand in support of the joint resolution that will renew the import restrictions contained in last year's legislation—sanctions that are supported by the National League for Democracy. These restrictions must remain until Burma embarks on a true path of reconciliation—a process that must include the NLD and Burmese ethnic minorities. I note, however, that while the American people have spoken with one voice in support of freedom in Burma, it is past time that the leaders of other nations do the same. No other country has yet implemented U.S.-style economic sanctions. The Europeans should reject half measures and join the United States in targeted sanctions against the military regime. China, Thailand, India, and other Asian nations uncomfortable with a tougher response to the junta's crimes must understand that diplomatic obfuscation and obstruction on Burma will profoundly affect their broader bilateral relationship with the western democracies.

The picture today in Burma is tragically clear. So long as a band of thugs rules Burma, its people will never be free. They will remain mired in poverty and suffering, cut off from the world, with only their indomitable spirit to keep them moving forward. With our action today, we will support this spirit.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I speak about Burma and U.S. sanctions policy. Last year, thugs working for the illegitimate Burmese government attacked opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and her supporters with clubs and sharpened sticks, killing as many as 70 pro-democracy activists.

The government then held Suu Kyi in what it cynically called "protective custody." Those events prompted international outrage and led the United States to pass the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

That Act banned all imports to the United States from Burma. Chairman GRASSLEY and I worked hard to ensure that these sanctions would be effective—and that Congress would continue to play a key role in their implementation.

I did not want Congress to impose trade sanctions on Burma without any opportunity to review the policy and revise it if it wasn't working. So the act requires that Congress debate and vote on whether to renew the import ban every year. That is why we are here today.

What has the import ban accomplished? In 2002, the last full year without a ban, Burma exported \$356 million to the United States, mainly in garments and apparel products.

Since the U.S. blocked all imports from Burma, more than 100 garment and apparel factories have closed, throwing 50,000 to 60,000 people, mainly young women, out of work.

And according to the State Department, many of these young women, lacking jobs and opportunities are, in desperation, quote, "turning to work in the sex industry or being forced or duped into prostitution by traffickers."

On the other hand, Burma's military rulers are doing just fine. The State Department notes that "the military leaders personal power and wealth have little connection to the well-being of the country. The country's economic and military elite derives its greatest earning power from the trade of natural resources with neighboring states and countries in the region."

I have long been critical of unilateral sanctions. They almost never work. They may be an effective expression of our rage, but as a rule, they do not destabilize oppressive regimes, and they often hurt the unfortunate people they are intended to help.

The ban on imports from Burma is no exception to this rule. Multilateral sanctions can be effective. That's why I insisted that the act require the administration to work toward making the sanctions multilateral. But to date, no country in the world has joined the United States in banning imports from Burma—not one.

Now, let me emphasize that Burma's government is despicable by any measure. Security forces commit murder, use rape as a weapon of war against ethnic minorities, and utilize forced labor. Democracy activists are arrested and dissent punished. Conscription of child soldiers is widespread.

There is no dispute that Burma's actions require a response. The question is whether unilateral trade sanctions are the proper response.

This is not an easy question. I hope that my colleagues have thought hard about the consequences. I hope they have made an honest assessment of the merits of maintaining the import ban.

We cannot forget that the votes we cast have real consequences. Those thousands of young women being forced into prostitution should serve as a harsh reminder.

After struggling with the issue for some time, I decided to support renewing the import ban for another year.

On balance, I believe we should allow the administration more time to try to convince other countries to join in sanctioning the outlaw regime in Burma. But I would urge the administration to make this more of a priority. Their efforts so far have produced little result.

If I am to find any consolation in this state of affairs, it comes from the fact that Congress has a say in whether the trade sanctions on Burma continue. We have retained our Constitutional authority over international commerce.

This is consolation to me because it is hard to evaluate any unilateral sanctions program without looking back on our failed sanctions against Cuba.

Since 1960, when the Cuban embargo was first put in place, the United States has pursued a unilateral policy of driving the Castro regime out of power. Even as the rest of the Soviet bloc collapsed, the Castro regime has retained its control on the Cuban island.

The U.S. embargo has failed. In fact, it is obvious to me that the embargo actually shelters Castro, and has directly contributed to the strength of his regime.

But the unilateral embargo has remained in place for more than forty years. Had Congress originally required an annual vote on the Cuban embargo, as we have now done with the Burma sanctions, the embargo would have been eliminated long ago.

Instead, the Cuban sanctions were created without any end in sight, without any exit strategy, without any plan for its removal. So, here we are, thirteen years beyond the fall of the Soviet Union, with the last vestige of the Cold War alive and well 90 miles from our shores.

That's why Senators ROBERTS, ENZI and I have introduced legislation to give Congress a voice on Cuba sanctions. This legislation mirrors the legislation on Burma that we are discussing today.

It would allow sanctions against Cuba to continue—but would require both Houses of Congress to vote annually to renew the sanctions. Absent such a vote, the sanctions would end.

This is a reasonable approach to Cuba, and to sanctions more generally. Of course, that's also why this legislation won't pass this year. The Adminis-

tration and Congressional leadership are well aware that Cuba sanctions would not survive a Senate vote.

In fact, last year, overwhelming majorities in the Senate and House voted to suspend enforcement of the travel ban. Everyone here remembers that those votes were ignored by the leadership in both chambers, and the travel ban remained in place.

I hope that Congress can learn from the mistakes we have made—and are still making—in Cuba. I hope that Congress will work toward a more responsible sanctions regime. I stand ready to work with my colleagues to make that happen.

Let me close by thanking Senators MCCONNELL, FEINSTEIN, and GRASSLEY for their work on the Burma legislation. Senators MCCONNELL and FEINSTEIN have been tireless advocates for democracy in Burma. They deserve to be commended.

I would also like to acknowledge some of the staff who have worked hard on this issue—Paul Grove, Michael Schiffer, Everett Eissenstat, and Stephen Schaeffer.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague from Kentucky, Senator MCCONNELL, in support of the joint resolution renewing the sanctions against Burma. The House has overwhelmingly and in a bipartisan manner passed this resolution, and I urge the Senate to do likewise.

Last year, following the brazen attack against the motorcade of Nobel Peace Prize winner and National League of Democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi, the United States took a firm stand on the side of human rights and democracy for the Burmese people by passing the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act and imposing a complete ban on Burmese imports.

One year later, Suu Ky remains under house arrest and the military junta, the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), has failed to make "substantial and measurable progress" towards a true dialogue on national reconciliation and recognition of the results of the 1990 parliamentary elections, decisively won by the NLD.

As a result, the Senate has no choice but to support renewing the sanctions for another year.

Let me be clear. I do not believe sanctions are a panacea for every foreign policy dispute we have with another country.

I have long supported the reform of our sanctions policy, and, in my view, Congress should have the opportunity to revisit sanctions imposed on other countries on a case-by-case basis and in a timely fashion.

I am cosponsor of Senator BAUCUS's legislation to allow Congress to vote up or down on the sanctions imposed on Cuba for that very reason.

It seems clear to me that 40 years later, those sanctions have not achieved our foreign policy goals. Yet, under different circumstances and conditions, sanctions can be effective.

Burma, in my view, is such a case. One year is not a sufficient period of time to judge the effectiveness of the sanctions, and there is reason to believe that the international community is coming together to put additional pressure on the military regime.

I was disappointed that the European Union and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) did not follow the United States' lead last year and impose tough sanctions on the military junta.

Nevertheless, the EU, for one, is beginning to realize that engagement with Rangoon has failed to achieve the desired results.

Last week, the EU refused to include Burma in two lower-level meetings with ASEAN representatives and, in response to ASEAN's demand that all of its members be allowed to attend, the EU canceled the meetings.

Supporters of freedom and democracy in Burma should welcome this move and continue to urge our allies to put additional pressure on the military regime.

There is also some positive movement within ASEAN itself, including Malaysia, the country that sponsored Burma's entry into the Association and has supported "non-interference" in domestic affairs of other members.

Earlier this month, a group of Malaysian parliamentarians—from the government and the opposition—formed a committee to press for democracy in Burma. The group called on the SPDC to immediately and unconditionally release all political prisoners and restore democratic government.

The parliamentary group stated: "The caucus also calls upon the (Burma) government to respect ASEAN and international opinion and return to the mainstream of responsible international norms and behavior."

Of course, we would all like to see ASEAN, the EU, and others to take additional steps to put pressure on Rangoon to respect human rights and restore democracy. But we must continue to take the lead.

I believe that by passing this resolution and renewing the sanctions on imports from Burma for another year, we will enhance our leadership in this area and rally the international community to our cause. Now is not the time to weaken our resolve.

Some may argue that the sanctions do no harm to the members of the military junta and instead place additional hardships on the Burmese people.

The military junta itself cynically suggested that the reason why human trafficking is a rampant problem in Burma—as cited in the latest State Department report—is due to the desperate economic conditions caused by the sanctions imposed by the United States.

Let us not forget that for over 15 years the military junta has brutalized its won citizens, engaged in numerous human rights abuses including rape, forced labor, and human trafficking of

young boys and girls, and run the Burmese economy into the ground.

And the consequences of the regime's repressive rule extend far beyond its borders. As Senator McCONNELL and I pointed out in an op-ed that appeared in the Wall Street Journal, the spread of narcotics, HIV/AIDS, and refugees across the region can be traced back to Rangoon.

As South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu stated earlier this year: "To dismantle apartheid [in South Africa] took not only commitment, faith, and hard work, but also intense international pressure and sanctions. In Burma, the regime has ravaged the country, and the people, to fund its illegal rule. Governments and international institutions must move past symbolic gestures and cut the lifelines to Burma's military regime through well-implemented sanctions."

We cannot say for certain these sanctions will work. But we can be certain that if we do nothing and allow these sanctions to expire, the military junta will strengthen its grip on power and the day of Suu Kyi's release from house arrest and the re-birth of democracy in Burma will be put off further into the future.

We simply cannot afford to make that mistake and turn our backs on those who are looking to us for hope and inspiration.

I urge my colleagues to renew their support for freedom and democracy, Suu Kyi and the Burmese people and support this resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is, Shall the joint resolution pass? The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. I announce that the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 150 Leg.]

YEAS—96

Akaka	Carper	Dorgan
Alexander	Chafee	Durbin
Allard	Chambliss	Edwards
Allen	Clinton	Ensign
Baucus	Cochran	Feingold
Bayh	Coleman	Feinstein
Bennett	Collins	Fitzgerald
Biden	Conrad	Frist
Bingaman	Cornyn	Graham (FL)
Bond	Corzine	Graham (SC)
Boxer	Craig	Grassley
Breaux	Crapo	Gregg
Brownback	Daschle	Hagel
Bunning	Dayton	Harkin
Burns	DeWine	Hatch
Byrd	Dodd	Hollings
Campbell	Dole	Hutchison
Cantwell	Domenici	Inhofe

McConnell	Schumer
Mikulski	Sessions
Miller	Shelby
Murkowski	Smith
Murray	Snowe
Nelson (FL)	Specter
Nelson (NE)	Stabenow
Nickles	Stevens
Pryor	Sununu
Reed	Talent
Reid	Thomas
Rockefeller	Voivovich
Santorum	Warner
Sarbanes	Wyden

NAYS—1

Enzi

NOT VOTING—3

Kerry Lugar Roberts

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 97) was passed.

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

Mr. BOND. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 393, which is at the desk; provided further that the Senate proceed immediately to a vote on the adoption of the resolution with no intervening action or debate. I further ask unanimous consent that following the vote, the preamble be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table. I further ask unanimous consent that following that vote the Senate proceed to executive session to the votes on the two previously debated judges; provided further that following those votes the Senate proceed to a vote on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 637, William D. Benton to be U.S. circuit court judge for the Eighth Circuit.

I further ask unanimous consent that following the votes the Senate proceed en bloc to the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: No. 433, No. 638, and No. 639.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations then be considered and confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and that the Senate then return to legislative session.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, will the Senator modify his request so all of these votes will be 10-minute votes?

Mr. McCONNELL. I so modify my request.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object—I probably won't object—will the Senator identify the first resolution to which he alluded?

Mr. McCONNELL. Will the Chair identify the resolution?

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.