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HIGHLIGHTS
OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION: By a vote of 79-6 the Senate agreed to S.Res.445, providing for the reorganization of Senate committees and their jurisdictions in response to the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission's report. (S10900-5, Oct 9)

DOD AUTHORIZATION – CONFERENCE REPORT: By a vote of 359-14 (roll#528, H9175) the House adopted the conference report on H.R.4200, the FY05 DoD authorization bill. Subsequently by unanimous consent (S10945) the Senate also adopted the conference report, clearing the measure for the White House. (H9175, S10945-54, Oct 9)

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS: Conferees on H.R.4837, the FY05 milcon appropriations – emergency disaster and drought relief supplemental, filed their report - H.Rept.108-773. Text appears at H9054-9118. Subsequently the House, by a vote of 374-0 (roll#529, H9175-6) adopted the conference report, clearing the measure for Senate action. (H9113-25, H9175-6, Oct 9) By voice vote (S11223) the Senate adopted the conference report, clearing the measure for the White House. (S1122308, Oct 11)

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION: By voice vote (S11331-2) the Senate passed H.R.4548, the FY05 intelligence authorization bill, after substituting the text of S.2386, as amended and passed earlier in the day. Senate insisted on its amendments, requested a conference with the House and appointed Senate conferees. (S11267-71, S11331-2, Oct 11)

ADJOURNMENT RESOLUTION: By a vote of 204-169 (roll#527, H9174) the House agreed to H.Con.Res.518. (H9174-5, Oct 9) By voice vote the Senate subsequently agreed to the resolution. (S11068, Oct 10) Resolution provides for an adjournment of the House and Senate until Tuesday, November 16, when Congress convenes in a lame duck session.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS: By a vote of 368-0 the House agreed to the conference report on H.R.4567, the FY05 homeland security appropriations bill. (H9162-77, Oct 9) By voice vote the Senate also adopted the report, clearing it for the White House. (S11229-32, Oct 11)

HIGHLIGHTS
OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

CONFIRMATION: Senate confirmed the nomination of Richard Greco, Jr., of New York, to be Asst Secretary of the Navy for Financial Management. (S11189) (Oct 10)

RESERVES: By voice vote (S11222) the Senate passed H.R.1779, the Guardsmen and Reservists Financial Relief Act of 2004, after it was discharged from the Senate Finance Cmte, and agreeing to a Landrieu amdt#4061 in the nature of a substitute, returning the bill to the House for further action. (S11222-3) (Oct 11)

SENATE, OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2004

// TO BE COMPLETED //

SENATE, OCTOBER 9, 2004

INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION: By 79 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. 208), Senate agreed to S. Res. 445, to eliminate certain restrictions on service of a Senator on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Adopted: (1) Frist Modified Amendment No. 4035 (to Amendment No. 3981), to modify certain security procedures of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence regarding public disclosure of classified information (S10900); (2) Hutchison Amendment No. 4042 (to Amendment No. 4015), to implement responsible subcommittee reorganization in the Committee on Appropriations (S10908); (3) By 50 yeas to 35 nays (Vote No. 206), Nickles/Conrad Amendment No. 4041 (to Amendment No. 4027), to vest sole jurisdiction over the Federal budget process in the Committee on the Budget, and to give the Committee on the Budget joint jurisdiction with the Governmental Affairs Committee over the process of reviewing, holding hearings, and voting on persons nominated by the President to fill the positions of Director and Deputy Director for Budget within the Office of Management and Budget (S10900-01; S10909); (4) Nickles/Conrad Amendment No. 4027 (to Amendment No. 3981), to vest sole jurisdiction over the Federal budget process in the Committee on the Budget (S10900-01; S10906-8; S10909; S10917); (5) By 44 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 207), Hutchison Amendment No. 4015 (to Amendment No. 3981), to implement responsible subcommittee reorganization in the Committee on Appropriations (S10908; S10917-18); (6) McConnell/Reid Amendment No. 4045 (to Amendment No. 3981), to make certain conforming and technical amendments (S10922); and (7) McConnell/Reid/Frist/Daschle Amendment No. 3981, in the nature of a substitute (S10900; S10922) Withdrawn: Domenici Amendment No. 4040 (to Amendment No. 3981), to transfer jurisdiction over organization and management of United States nuclear export policy to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (S10900) A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the resolution was vitiated (S10924) A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that amendments numbered 3989, 3994, and 4037, all previously agreed to, were modified. (S10922) Debate appears at S10900-10; S10917-18; S10922-25. Amdt submitted: McConnell/Reid Amdt No. 4045 appears at S10990.

SENATE, OCTOBER 9, 2004

INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION (cont)

Sen Voinovich (R-OH) discussed Nickles/Conrad Amendment No. 4027 (to Amendment No. 3981), to vest sole jurisdiction over the Federal budget process in the Committee on the Budget. Explained that Senate committees rarely share jurisdiction and that joint referral of legislation is accomplished by unanimous consent. Believed this amdt would eliminate that and state that all of the budgetary process is within the jurisdiction only of the Budget Cmte and require that instead of the nominations for the Director and Deputy Director of OMB being under the sole jurisdiction of the Governmental Affairs Cmte, there would be a joint jurisdiction. Believed this amdt would make the Presidential appointment process in this regard much more complicated than it is today. Also argued that too often there is no "M" in OMB and said he was pleased that this administration has undertaken some very aggressive management responsibilities. Inserted a list of human capital changes that have occurred since 1999 that have come out of the Governmental Affairs Cmte. One of the items is the DoD Civilian Workforce Reshaping Authority as part of the FY 2001 DoD Authorization, signed on October 30, 2000. (S10906-7)

Sen Reid (D-NV) disagreed with Hutchison Amendment No. 4042 (to Amendment No. 4015), to implement responsible subcommittee reorganization in the Committee on Appropriations. Believed the consolidation of the Defense appropriations subcommittee and the Military Construction appropriations subcommittee makes sense. Stated that the subject matter is related to the same players, same departments, military, same basis. Remarked that he has served as chmn of the Subc on Military Construction and he also wondered why it was a separate subcommittee. (S10909; S10915)

Sen McConnell (R-KY) recalled that at the beginning of this debate he said that after reforming the executive branch's intelligence and homeland security agencies, the Senate needed to put its own house in order. Admitted that this was no small achievement for a body very averse to change. Stated that some Members will complain that this reform goes too far, while others will complain that it does not go far enough. He believed that an appropriate balance of reform had been struck that would improve the ability of the Senate to conduct oversight of intelligence and homeland security during a very serious time for our country. Included a brief summary of the reforms, such as clarified jurisdictional lines and improvement of the coordination of military intelligence matters between the Armed Services and Intelligence Committees. (S10922-3) Sen Grassley (R-IA) made a lengthy statement in support of S. Res. 445. Discussed the Grassley-Baucus Amdt to elucidate non-security functions of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement that necessarily should remain within the jurisdiction of the Finance Cmte. This amdt was passed on October 7. (S10923-4) Additional remarks by Sen Reid (D-NV) appear at S10928)

DOD AUTHORIZATION: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 514, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a technical correction in the enrollment of H.R. 4200, FY 05 DoD Authorization. (S10954)

VETERANS: Senate passed S. 2938, to grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated. (S11007-08)

SENATE, OCTOBER 9, 2004

DOD AUTHORIZATION: By unanimous consent, Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 4200, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 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, clearing the measure for the President. (S10945-54)

Sen Warner (R-VA) explained that this conference report provides \$420.6 billion for defense, an increase of \$19.3 billion above the amount authorized by Congress last year. Noted that it also authorizes an additional \$25 billion for war-related costs in Iraq and Afghanistan. Stated that as the Senate considers this conference report, we remain a nation at war against terrorism around the world. Stated that this bill provides much needed benefits to those now serving in the Armed Forces—Reserve and Active Duty—as well as addressing long-standing needs of military retirees and veterans, and their families. Noted that the many contentious issue included BRAC, Buy America, Tanker replacement, housing privatization, and TRICARE for Reservists. Believed that the provisions in this conference report sustain and improve on the excellence of a US military that is the most capable military force in the world today, a standard by which others are measured. Inserted a list of the Committee staff. (S10945-6) Sen Levin (D-MI) drew attention to a number of provisions in the conference report, including several that will help improve the management of DoD and other federal agencies. One such provision should help resolve the controversy over the Air Force's proposed lease of tanker aircraft by prohibiting the Air Force from entering a lease and instead requiring the use of a traditional multi-year contract. Admitted that this is a good conference report and he would vote for it, but no conference report is perfect. Stated that he strongly disagreed with a provision that would attempt to transfer from DoD to the Treasury Dept the responsibility to provide the funding for military health care. Added that he was deeply disappointed that the House conferees refused to accept important Senate provisions addressing hate crimes. Also said he was disappointed that, faced with a veto threat, they were able to get less than half of the provisions that they wanted to codify sound practices in public-private competition of work currently performed by government employees. Lastly, said he was disappointed that the conference report includes a House provision reducing the authority of the base closure commission to address bases not recommended for closure or realignment by the Sec/Def. Also thanked the staff. (S10946-8) Sen Lugar (R-IN) discussed his concern with language in section 1225, Bilateral Exchanges and Trade in Defense Articles and Defense Services Between the US and the United Kingdom and Australia. (S10948-9) Sen McCain (R-AZ) stated that the Congress has agreed to amend Section 135 of the FY 04 DoD Authorization by expressly prohibiting the Air Force from using previously granted authority to acquire, through a lease or purchase, Boeing 767 aircraft for use as aerial refueling tankers. Sen Warner (R-VA) agreed that Section 133 specifically revokes the authority previously granted under Section 8159 of the FY 02 DoD Appns Act, to the Air Force to lease aircraft for use as tankers. Said Section 133 bars the AF from executing a contract for the multiyear purchase of aircraft specified under Section 8159, that is, general purpose Boeing 767 aircraft that would be modified as an aerial refueling aircraft. Added that Section 8159 would have precluded full and open competition. Clarified that the CBO would score this provision as a traditional procurement program which would expressly require the AF to pay for each tanker in the year it is purchases. (S10949) Sen Kennedy (D-MA) criticized the administration for ordering allies in the House to block the bipartisan hate crimes provision. (S10949)

SENATE, OCTOBER 9, 2004

DOD AUTHORIZATION (cont)

Sen Snowe (R-ME) expressed support for the conference report. Expressed her disappointment that the House provision to delay the 2005 BRAC by 2 years was not maintained in conference because she fervently believed that closing domestic bases at a time we are engaged in a global war is not in the best interests of our Nation. (S10952-4) Sen Reid (D-NV) noted that one provision of great importance to him, but even more important to 40,000 100-percent disabled Americans, allows concurrent receipts immediately. (S10954) Sen McCain (R-AZ) expressed support for the conference report, but said he would be remiss if he did not mention that once again the DoD Appropriations Act has been signed into law prior to final action on the Defense Authorization Act. Discussed quality of life provisions in the conference report as well as our increasing reliance on the Guard and Reserves. Expressed disappointment that there was another Buy America battle and the Senate had to beat back a House provision he said sought to protect parochial interests at the cost of our defense industry and American jobs. Said he was pleased that the Senate prevailed. Noted that the Senate was also successful in defeating a provision aimed at crippling the upcoming round of BRAC. Drew attention to Section 133 which provides that the Air Force may not enter into a sole-source multiyear contract for the lease or purchase of Boeing 767s. (S10950-2)

VETERANS: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3936, Veterans Health Programs Improvement Act, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the authorization of appropriations for grants to benefit homeless veterans, to improve programs for management and administration of veterans' facilities and health care programs, and the bill was then passed, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof, the text of S. 2485, Senate companion measure, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendments proposed thereto: (1) Specter Amendment No. 4048, in the nature of a substitute. (S11007); and (2) Specter Amendment No. 4049, to amend the title. (S11007) Subsequently, S. 2485, was returned to the Senate calendar. (S11007) Debate appears at S10997-11007. Amdts submitted: Specter Amdt No. 4048 to S. 2485 appears at S10991-7 and Specter Amdt No. 4049 to H.R. 3936 appears at S10997.

MILCON APPROPRIATIONS: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4837, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005. (S10978-79) A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a cloture vote will occur on Monday, October 11, 2004. (S10978-79)

HOMELAND SECURITY: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4567, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005. (S10979) A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a cloture vote will occur on Monday, October 11, 2004. (S10979) Sen Stevens (R-AK) inserted a letter from Sec/Homeland Security, urging support for the conference report on the Dept of Homeland Security Appropriations. (S10967)

SENATE, OCTOBER 9, 2004

ECONOMY: Senate continued consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4520, American Jobs Creation Act, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove impediments in such Code and make our manufacturing, service, and high-technology businesses and workers more competitive and productive both at home and abroad. (S10928-45) A unanimous-consent consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the conference report at 10:30 a.m., on Sunday, October 10, 2004, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture to occur at 1 p.m.; provided further, that if cloture is invoked Senator Landrieu be recognized, following the vote, to speak for up to 1 hour. (S11008) Sen Grassley (R-IA) reminded his colleagues that the World Trade Organization has ruled that the Foreign Sales Corporation extraterritorial income legislation that has been on the books for quite a few years is an illegal export subsidy and has authorized up to \$4 billion a year in sanctions against US exports. Asserted that “now that we are at the doorway of final passage, we cannot fritter away the opportunity to eliminate this tax put on our exports to Europe by the European Union.” (S10929-32) Sen Hatch (R-UT) spoke at length in support of the conference report. (S10957-60; S10973-5) Sen Landrieu (D-LA) explained that the Congress was forced to put together a tax relief bill because of a decision made by the WTO that part of our Tax code was not in order. Stated that “what happens around here is every time we open the Tax Code, it is very tempting for everyone else to try to get in the bill because if you can get in the bill, you can get money out of the Treasury.” Described how what began as a very specific \$50 billion fix has turned into a \$137 billion tax relief bill that “forgot one group of people....We left out our troops. We left out the men and women on the front line.” Spoke at length in favor of putting a provision in this bill to help the Guard and Reserves. (S10962-7) Sen Brownback (R-KS) expressed his appreciation to the conferees for retaining the provision allowing business aircraft purchased this year to qualify for bonus depreciation if the aircraft is delivered and placed in service in 2005. (S10976-7) Sen Harkin (D-IA) complained that the Bush administration again used the conference to kill his provision to stop the Dept/Labor’s new rule on overtime pay that if allowed to stand will strip 6 million people of their right to time and a half overtime. (S10972-3)

IRAQ PRISON ABUSE: Sen Leahy (D-VT) expressed his disappointment that Congress seems content to let the issue of foreign prisoner abuse linger without effective congressional oversight. Disagreed with those who believe that continuing to investigate this matter will drag it out and have the effect of preventing us from putting the scandal behind us. Noted that a recent LA Times article revealed what he said appears to be a complete disregard for established Army procedure among certain units in Afghanistan. Inserted an October 1, 2004, letter to Sec/Def Rumsfeld asking him about the allegations raised in the article. Also included a letter signed by himself and Sen Kennedy (D-MA) to Attorney General John D. Ashcroft. Noted that Friday, October 15, is the deadline imposed by a Federal judge for the administration to turn over or identify all documents relating to the treatment of prisoners held by the US at military bases and other detention facilities overseas. Said he would not be surprised if the administration refused to comply with this court order. Believed that none of the Pentagon investigations provides a complete and unbiased assessment of the prisoner abuse scandal. Repeated his call for an independent investigation. Suggested that perhaps in the new year with the new Congress, the administration in power would be ready to seek the full truth and begin the process of restoring honor to our nation. (S10980-1)

SENATE, OCTOBER 9, 2004

MISSILES: Sen Reed (D-RI) stated that he was going to discuss a policy which he did not consider to be the wisest and the most thoughtful—the President’s likely declaration, within a few days, of the operational deployment of the ground-based missile system. Sen Reed asserted that operational testing is in order and he would hope that the administration would actually follow the law more rigorously and provide for a scheme of operational testing. Noted that 20 years ago, the Congress passed laws which required all major defense systems to undergo a full set of realistic operational tests prior to spending large amounts of money on full production and deployment of the system. Noted that the law is still in effect today requiring these tests to be judged by an independent test authority, the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation. Believed that because of this law, we have been able to avoid some of the mistakes of the 1070s and 1980s, when systems were declared deployed and operational without adequate testing—high profile systems like the B-1, the Sergeant York gun, and the Bradley Fighting Vehicle. Recalled that the B-1 and the Bradley Fighting Vehicle were eventually fixed at a cost of billions of dollars, but the Sergeant York gun was unable to be fixed and was cancelled. “But we wasted billions of dollars by deploying these systems prematurely.” Regarding the Ground-Based Missile System, remarked that “To declare this immature, technologically challenged system as deployed and operational today is a political judgment, not a military judgment. I think we should refrain from blatant political judgments when the security of the United States is in the balance.” Added that “this system is so immature and technologically challenged that they canceled the last test. And it defies me to understand how, after canceling the test, you can turn around say: ‘It will work. It is operational.’ It defies common sense. It defies logic.” Continued to discuss issue at length, adding that the ultimate costs of this system are unknown because the administration steadfastly refuses to provide to Congress any information on how much missile defense they want to buy and how much it will cost. (S10933-34)

JUSTICE: Sen Smith (R-OR) expressed his concern with the dissemination of anti-Semitic attitudes through political cartoons. Remarked that it is an unfortunate reality that some newspapers in the Arab world blatantly promote anti-Semitism. Said what he found disconcerting, however, is the fact that this sentiment is creeping into political cartoons both in Europe as well as the US. Urge his colleagues and leaders across the world to make every effort to end this practice. (S10983)

KYRGZSTAN: Sen Landrieu (D-LA) noted that the President of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Askar Akaev, visited the US for the opening of the session of the UN and also traveled to Utah to discuss the reforms taking place in his country as well as the efforts his nation is taking in the war on terrorism. Remarked that “Today we face a global war against terror, a war we cannot win alone. It is in that spirit that we should recognize and support democracies worldwide, particularly those burgeoning democracies for which freedom is a new concept.” Believed Kyrgyzstan was such an example. Expressed her gratitude to President Akaev for his commitment to the war on terrorism and for providing a military base for our troops in his country. Noted that there are a number of companies with operations in the region that have helped supply our troops with what they need to prevail. Concluded that as we continue to search for allies in this critical region of the world, it is important to commend those who are trying and slowly succeeding with new found freedoms and economic opportunities. (S10983-4)

SENATE, OCTOBER 9, 2004

INTELLIGENCE REFORM: Sen Stevens (R-AK) asked unanimous consent that S. 2845, intelligence reform, be printed as passed. (S10967)

APPROPRIATIONS: Sen Stevens (R-AK) noted that the House passed both the military construction appropriations bill 374-0 and the homeland security appropriations bill 368-0. No one voted against either of these bills. Discussed funding for FEMA, explaining that they can re-apportion under the continuing resolution, which means they can transfer funds from other areas but it will have to be taken from places like the Federal air marshals, air cargo inspections, port security, and more. Remarked that many believe that the US will have another terrorist attack before the election. Stated that there is a continuing resolution in effect until November 20, but getting this bill increases much of the effort we are making to protect the US. Added that it also has new programs that cannot be started until the homeland security bill is passed. Stated that a continuing resolution would prevent certain expansion in the intelligence capabilities of the Dept from taking place, leaving the nation at risk. (S10954-5)

SENATE, OCTOBER 8, 2004

VETERANS: Senate passed S. 2486, Veterans Benefits, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and extend housing, education, and other benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and Specter Amendment No. 4044, in the nature of a substitute (S10892). (S10880-92) Amdt submitted (No. 4044) appears at S10869-77. Reported version of the bill appears at S10880-84. Sen Specter (R-PA) discussed a substitute amdt he proposed. Included an explanatory statement. (S10884-91) Supportive remarks by Sen Bob Graham (D-FL) appear at S10891-2.

INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION: Senate continued consideration of S. Res. 445, to eliminate certain restrictions on service of a Senator on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. The following amdts are pending: (1) McConnell/Reid/Frist/Daschle Amendment No. 3981, in the nature of a substitute (S10764-10816); (2) Domenici Amendment No. 4040 (to Amendment No. 3981), to transfer jurisdiction over organization and management of United States nuclear export policy to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (S10764); (3) Nickles Amendment No. 4027 (to Amendment No. 3981), to vest sole jurisdiction over the Federal budget process in the Committee on the Budget (S10781); Subsequently, the proposal of Amendment No. 4027 (listed above), was vitiated. (S10782); and (4) Nickles Amendment No. 4041 (to Amendment No. 4027), to vest sole jurisdiction over the Federal budget process in the Committee on the Budget, and to give the Committee on the Budget joint jurisdiction with the Governmental Affairs Committee over the process of reviewing, holding hearings, and voting on persons nominated by the President to fill the positions of Director and Deputy Director for Budget within the Office of Management and Budget (S19781); Subsequently, the proposal of Amendment No. 4041 (listed above), was vitiated (S10782). During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action: By 88 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 204), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and

SENATE, OCTOBER 8, 2004

INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION (cont)

sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the McConnell/Reid/Frist/Daschle Amendment No. 3981 (listed above). (S10764) By 85 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. 205), Senate agreed to the motion to instruct the Sergeant at Arms to request the attendance of absent Senators. (S10779) A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 11:15 a.m. on Saturday, October 9, 2004, Senate proceed to votes in relation to any pending amendments to Amendment No. 3981 (listed above); provided further, that it be in order prior to votes for Senators to offer a qualified amendment from the unanimous consent list of October 7, 2004; provided further, that following the disposition of those amendments, Senate proceed to a vote on the adoption of the pending Amendment No. 3981, to be followed by a vote on cloture on the resolution; provided further, that if cloture is invoked, Senate immediately proceed to a vote on adoption of the resolution, as amended. (S10816) A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the resolution at 10 a.m., on Saturday, October 9, 2004. (S10892) Debate appears at S10764-10816.

TAXES: Sen Landrieu (D-LA) criticized the conference report on H.R.4520, the corporate tax relief bill, for not containing any tax incentives for the employers of Guardsmen and Reservists called to active duty. “The only people taking bullets for us, who are the men and women on the front line in Afghanistan and Iraq—in this case the Guard and National Reserve—the only people taking the bullets were left out of the bill completely.” Announced that she was going to try to slow down consideration of this bill until she could get the message out. (S10781) Additional remarks concerning some tax break proposals for Guard and Reserve personnel appear at S10791-2. Noted that 40 percent of the guardsmen and Reservists who leave their regular jobs, leave their families, and leave their regular civilian life to put on their uniforms and go to the front lines not only take the bullet, but they also take a cut in pay to go. Additional discussion also appears at S10801-3; S10804-7, including a list of outstanding employers compiled by the National Cmte for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

ECONOMY: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4520, American Jobs Creation Act, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove impediments in such Code and make our manufacturing, service, and high-technology businesses and workers more competitive and productive both at home and abroad. (S10764) A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report to accompany H.R. 4520, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur at 1 p.m., on Sunday, October 10, 2004. (S10764) A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the vote on the motion to invoke cloture will occur at 1 p.m., on Sunday, October 10, 2004. (S10816) Sen Chambliss (R-GA) explained the provisions of the bill at S10815-16.

INTELLIGENCE REFORM: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the October 6, 2004 passage of S. 2845, to reform the intelligence community and the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, Collins/Lieberman Amendment No. 3977, previously agreed to, was modified. (S10879-80)

SENATE, OCTOBER 8, 2004

CONFIRMATIONS: Senate confirmed numerous nominations including: 31 Air Force nominations in the rank of general; 37 Army nominations in the rank of general; 4 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral; and routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Navy. Air Force confirmations include Brubaker/Sischo, ANG (31 names) to be 2- and 1-star; and Aase/Young (134 names) to be major. (S10877-78; S10897)

COMMITTEE: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, in accordance with the qualifications specified under section 1238(b)(3)(E) of Public Law 106-398, and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, in consultation with the chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, appointed the following individual to the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: The Honorable Fred D. Thompson of Tennessee for a term beginning January 1, 2005 and expiring December 31, 2006. (S10878)

COMMITTEE: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, in accordance with the qualifications specified under section 1238(b)(3)(E) of Public Law 106-398, and upon the recommendation of the Democratic Leader, in consultation with the chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, appointed the following individual to the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: Patrick A. Mulloy of Virginia for a term beginning January 1, 2005 and expiring December 31, 2006. (S10878)

VA: During a discussion of the Medicare Modernization Act, Sen Hatch (R-UT) attempted to correct some misinformation circulating about the law. Remarked "Another charge we hear frequently is that Congress should give Medicare beneficiaries access to the Veterans' Administration approach." Commented "Well, what these critics do not tell beneficiaries about the VA model is that it is a very restrictive formulary and that the drugs are available only through a limited number of VA pharmacies." (S10764-67)

ECONOMIC: Sen Durbin (D-IL) observed that President Bush, during this administration, has lost more jobs in America than any President in the last 70 years of either political party and that, as a result of the lost jobs, and as a result of businesses struggling with the Bush economic policies, fewer companies offer health insurance. (S10769-70) Sen Boxer (D-CA) suggested that the President created a climate in this country where the number of jobs is not growing. Stated that the Clinton administration was creating 2.6 million jobs a year; believed the difference was that the Clinton administration put together a sound fiscal policy for America. Criticized the President for an economic policy that called for tax cuts during the period that included 9/11, a recession, and the war in Iraq. Asserted that these tax cuts primarily focused on the wealthiest people in America. (S10770-2) Noting that the head of the Council of Economic Advisers of the Bush administration released a report stating that outsourcing of jobs was a positive, good thing, Sen Durbin (D-IL) remarked that "this administration plays by a strange economic textbook." (S10772-3) Sen Allard (R-CO) addressed economic issues, particularly mentioning an economic report released today. Remarked "When we look at this economic report with all that has been happening through 2004, I don't see how anyone can deny this has not been a good year for America's economy." Said he thought America was on the right track. (S10800-1)

SENATE, OCTOBER 8, 2004

IRAQ / HOMELAND SECURITY: Sen Cornyn (R-TX) said he wished to respond to some of the remarks that had been made on the floor when he was expecting to hear a debate about the intelligence community and homeland security. Suggested that from some of the remarks, one would wonder why anyone would want to live in the United States because things are so bad. Stated that, as his colleagues may have noticed, people are not knocking down the door to leave the US because somehow we are no longer the land of opportunity and freedom and hope. Noted that 1.9 million jobs have been created since August 2003. Noted that at the end of President Clinton's term, the country was going through a recession, then 9/11 occurred and corporate scandals, all with tremendous negative impact on our economy. "Thanks to the efforts of this president and this administration, this Congress, thanks to the fact that we lowered taxes for hard-working men and women, it allowed them to save more, invest more, and for small businesses to create more jobs. Also reminded his colleagues that the only reason we took out Saddam Hussein was because of the authorization of this Congress. Recalled that an overwhelming majority of the members of the Senate voted to authorize the use of force in October 2002 to enforce UN resolutions which Saddam Hussein had defied since 1991. Noted that he attended the SASC hearing with Mr. Duelfer in which he confirmed that the intelligence the president had relied on with regard to weapons of mass destruction provide not to be correct, but said he did confirm that Saddam Hussein had corrupted the Oil for Food Program, was evading sanctions, and chased the UN weapons inspectors out of his country because he did not want them to know he was in the process of rebuilding his capacity to rearm himself with weapons of mass destruction as soon as those sanctions failed. Concluded that the fact is, America is stronger and safer and better off as a result of President Bush's leadership and as a result of the leadership of this Congress. (S10774-5) Sen Talent (R-MO) agreed with Sen Cornyn (R-TX). Recalled the 1990s when he said people criticized the first President Bush because he didn't get rid of Saddam. Adding that he was on the Armed Services Cmte throughout the 1990s, asserted "this man and his regime was an organic threat to the interests and security of the United States of America. Everybody saw it. He used weapons of mass destruction on his own people. We cannot permit an anti-American tyrant to take control of that part of the world." Said he very strongly believed that President Clinton was moving toward a resolution of that when he left office. Asserted "Even if there had not been a 9/11, we would have had to do something about Saddam Hussein and, no, we could not wait longer. How long are you supposed to wait?" (S10775-6) Sen Lautenberg (D-NJ) expressed strong support for our troops in Iraq, but questioned the rationale for going there in the first place. Believed the intelligence was "if not fabricated, tainted, biased." Commented on the military service of both President Bush and Sen Kerry (D-MA). Also commented on the recent raid in Egypt aimed at vacationing Israelis. Remarked that he had been seeing a disturbing trend of criticisms of Israel. "You can see it in the talk of a divestment campaign—blame Israel first. The innocents killed by terrorists are ignored, but there is a disproportionate focus on civilian victims of Israeli military operations against terrorists. To blame Israel for the turmoil and violence in the Middle East is outrageous. Review some of the recent history in the Middle East, events that had nothing to do with Israel. Yet when I was in Syria with other Senators, we heard the President of Syria, President Assad, say all the problems that exist in the area are because of Israel." (S10777-79)

SENATE, OCTOBER 8, 2004

IRAQ: Sen Durbin (D-IL) also addressed the situation in Iraq. Stated that the President and various administration officials told us we were in imminent danger from an attack from Saddam Hussein because of arsenals of chemical and biological weapons and the rebuilding of the nuclear weapons. Said that was the justification for invading. “And it was all wrong. Totally wrong.” Remarked that now the administration is saying that it was not really about weapons of mass destruction. “It was the fact that Saddam Hussein could not be trusted and was an evil man. It was about the fact he may have had the desire—the new world ‘desire’—to build weapons of mass destruction and it really was about the Oil for Food Program in Iraq.” Concluded that “The intelligence was bad. The reasons for going to war, given to us by the President, was just plain wrong.” Called the rebuilding of Iraq a vicious circle. “You cannot stabilize Iraq until you move the economy forward. You cannot move the economy forward until you build basic infrastructure such as electricity, and you cannot build basic infrastructure if you have insurgents and terrorists and guerillas blowing up everything you build. This vicious circle suggested there is no end in sight.” Also criticized the administration for not capturing Osama bin Laden and asked where our coalition is to fight al-Qaida. (S10773-4)

AFGHANISTAN: Sen Kennedy (D-MA) drew attention to the upcoming elections in Afghanistan. Stated that “one of the greatest intelligence failures in our history occurred on 9/11, and the seeds of that disaster were planted long ago in Afghanistan, whose people will participate tomorrow in the historic election to select their next president.” Expressed his deep respect for the Afghan people and others who worked so hard in recent months to make these elections possible. Noted that they have already been postponed three times, and the parliamentary elections that were to be held this weekend have now been delayed until next year. Stated that President Karzai has shown tremendous courage and determination in the face of multiple assassination attempts. Added that he and the vast majority of the Afghan people have demonstrated an impressive commitment to a free and democratic Afghanistan. Referring to problems Afghanistan will encounter on its road to long-term stability and prosperity, asserted that the administration, Congress, and the American people cannot afford to be distracted from the ongoing efforts that will be required to bring peace and stability to Afghanistan. Observing the shift in emphasis from Afghanistan to Iraq, noted that in his State of the Union address, President Bush failed to mention bin Laden, al-Qaida, except for one fleeting remark, or the Taliban. (S10793-5)

IRAQ: Sen Byrd (D-WV) stated that the Duelfer report explains that Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction. Remarked that the fact that weapons of mass destruction have not been found in Iraq is nothing new. Asked how long the US would be tied down in a Middle Eastern country while other threats at home go unaddressed. (S10803-4)

CIVIL AVIATION: Sen Brownback (R-KS) discussed a provision in the FSC/ETI bill extending the bonus depreciation allowance for civil aviation aircraft. Believed that the bonus depreciation has brought back an industry that was on its knees, crushed after 9/11. Also noted that the US Trade Representative announced that they would be withdrawing from the 1992 civil aviation agreement with the European Union. Stated that the issue is that Airbus has stolen by Government subsidies a huge market share from Boeing and other manufacturers, primarily from Boeing and large-scale aircraft. (S10807-8)

SENATE, OCTOBER 8, 2004

NOMINATIONS: Senate received numerous nominations including routine lists in the Air Force, as follows: Allred/Wrockloff (57 names) to be ltcol; and Abruzzi/Zuber (1425 names) to be ltcol. (S10893-97)

IRAQ: Sen Dole (R-NC) spoke at length regarding the connection between Iraq and al-Qaida. Emphasized that Iraq is the central battleground in the war on terror. (S10796)

IRAQ: Sen Brownback (R-KS) commented that the war in Iraq is a very sensitive issue. Said it seemed to him that it had become quite fashionable to criticize the war. Wished to caution his colleagues that the troops in Iraq want to know that America continues to support them. "I think a number of people look at this, saying what you mean is you don't support this conflict and does that mean we are going to be pulling out and are we not going to complete the job? Are we not going to make the turn to democracy in Iraq?" Urged his colleagues to consider how their remarks are heard by the troops. Hoped our troops know that we have not found weapons of mass destruction. But it doesn't mean their efforts have been in vain. "We have spread a message of democracy and hope. We have pushed Libya to the point now where they have given up WMDs, and are opening up their society." Added that we have gotten rid of Saddam Hussein. (S10808-9)

DOD AUTHORIZATION: Sen Brownback (R-KS) discussed a provision that was in the DoD Authorization bill before it was pulled out because of other associated issues: raising fines for indecent material in public over-the-air broadcasts on radio and television. Explained that the provisions came back in a House bill, H.R. 3717, the Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act, which he said they were trying to move through the Senate. (S10809)

PRESIDENT: Sen Harkin (D-IA) noted that the focus of the Presidential debate tonight would be on domestic issues. Hoped there would be a number of questions for President Bush regarding his intention to take away the overtime pay rights of over 6 million American workers. Also hoped health care would come up. Stated that our veterans get the cheapest drugs anywhere in America through the VA. Asked why Medicare should not be able to do the same thing. Wondered why we don't have a free-trade agreement with Canada on drugs. (S10809-14)

BURMA: Sen McConnell (R-KY) said it had come to his attention that since October 2003, the Government of Japan had funded at least 28 new projects in Burma totaling more than \$18 million. Noting that some of these funds appear to have been provided directly to the illegitimate and repressive State Peace and Development Council, asked why Japan was providing this assistance when Burmese democracy leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other members and supporters of the National League for Democracy remain imprisoned. (S10819)

NOMINATION: Sen Specter (R-PA) recommended that the nomination of Francis J. Harvey, to be Sec/Army, be confirmed. Noted that he is currently serving as ASD (Networks and Information Integration). (S10823)

TRIBUTE: Sen Dole (R-NC) paid tribute to Col Robert Morgan, USA, World War II veteran, who made history when his B-29, "Dauntless Dotty," was chosen to lead the first B-29 raid on Tokyo. (S10825)

SENATE, OCTOBER 8, 2004

IRAQ: Sen Leahy (D-VT) cited the escalating violence and chaos in Iraq as well as the increasing death toll and remarked that to hear the President and Vice President describe it, one would think that everything is going well. Regretted that the President's rosy picture is misleading and "wildly off base," but believed that even worse is the fact that the President's statements are contradicted by officials and experts within his own administration. (S10825-6)

INTELLIGENCE REFORM: Sen Durbin (D-IL) discussed at length the need to protect civil liberties while fighting the war on terrorism. Drew attention to provisions in the National Intelligence Reform Act of 2004. (S10826-7)

CIVIL AVIATION: Sen Smith (R-OR) discussed the troubling dispute between Boeing and Airbus caused by subsidies European governments are providing to Boeing's main competitor. (S10826)

TAIWAN: Sen Smith (R-OR) paid tribute to the President and people of Taiwan on the occasion of Taiwan's National Day, celebrated on October 10. (S10827-8)

INTELLIGENCE REFORM: Sen Durbin (D-IL) discussed section 514 of the National Intelligence Reform Act, which deals with the detention and humane treatment of captured terrorists. (S10828)

IRAQ/JAPAN: Sen Craig (R-ID) drew attention to the contribution Japan is making to our Nation's efforts to help the Iraqi people build a safe and stable democracy. Asserted that "We are all aware of the limitations that Japan has imposed on its own military since World War II. What many of us are not aware of is the actions Japan has taken to work with the United States and other nations to bring peace and stability to Iraq. Inserted a fact sheet on Japanese assistance. (S10829-31)

TRIBUTE: Sen Chambliss (R-GA) commended the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW for their great work on behalf of our military members and veterans, and specifically those veterans and military personnel in the State of Georgia. (S10835)

MILITARY PERSONNEL: Sen Bond (R-MO) introduced and discussed S. 2956, to direct the Sec/Def to carry out a program to provide a support system for members of the Armed Forces who incur severe severe disabilities. Explained that his bill would assist DoD by granting reprogramming authority to the Army to transfer funds to the Army's Disabled Soldier Support System and by expanding the program to cover all the Armed Services. No text. (S10855-6)

AFGHANISTAN: Sen Hagel (R-NE), for himself and several colleagues, submitted and discussed S. Con. Res. 142, recognizing the landmark Presidential elections that will take place in Afghanistan Saturday, October 9, 2004. (S10864)

SENATE, OCTOBER 7, 2004 – CONTINUED

INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION: Senate continued consideration of S. Res. 445, to eliminate certain restrictions on service of a Senator on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Debate appears at S10620-30; S10631-74.

During discussion of the McCain Amendment No. 3999 (to Amendment No. 3981), to strike section 402 and vest intelligence appropriations jurisdiction in the Select Committee on Intelligence, which was rejected by a vote of 23 yeas to 74 nays (Vote No. 200) (Debate appears at S10632-46), Sen Inouye (D-HI) noted that the 9/11 Commission recommended two options for Congress to consider regarding intelligence oversight: (1) Congress could create a joint bicameral committee modeled after the Joint Cmte on Atomic Energy; or (2) Congress could give the Intelligence Cmtes the authority to appropriate funds. Believed that linking Defense and Intelligence is critical because DoD cannot operate without good intelligence. Asserted that the Defense Subc has ensured that intelligence resources support the needs of the warfighter. Explained that today the Defense Subc reviews the recommendations of both the Armed Services and Intelligence Cmtes. Believed that separating Defense from Intelligence through the creation of an all-powerful Intelligence Cmte would hurt oversight and hurt the community they hope to help. Asserted that the intelligence budget should not be considered in a vacuum; believed it needed to be considered in conjunction with the Defense budget. Stated that many programs have both national and military, strategic or tactical, components. “Military personnel provide a large proportion of the intelligence community workforce. The Defense Dept and intelligence community both need to support maintaining this relationship and benefit from doing so.” Discussed the roles of the authorizing and appropriating committees. Noted that former DepSecDef John Hamre testified that the Intelligence and Armed Services Cmtes worry too much about input and not enough about output. Said he noted that the authorizing committees spend far too much time on the budget and therefore had insufficient time for oversight. Sen Inouye concluded that the real key to better oversight is for the authorizing committees to focus on outputs as Dr. Hamre noted and for the Appropriations Cmte to focus on allocating resources as efficiently and effectively as possible. Urged his colleagues to defeat the McCain (R-AZ) amdt. (S10634-6) Sen Stevens (R-AK) also thought it would be a mistake to adopt this amdt. (S10636-8) Remarks by Sen Bob Graham (D-FL) in opposition to the amdt appear at S10638-40. Sen Roberts (R-KS) expressed support for the amdt. (S10640-41) Sen Byrd (D-WV) opposed it. (S10641-3)

Sen Biden’s (D-DE) remarks in support of (rejected) Biden/Lugar Amendment No. 4021 (to Amendment No. 3981), to provide that the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Foreign Relations (if not already a member of the select Committee) shall be ex officio members of the select Committee but shall have no vote in the Committee and shall not be counted for purposes of determining a quorum, appear at S10665-6. Amdt is debated at S10665-69.

SENATE, OCTOBER 7, 2004 – CONTINUED

INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION

Sen Voinovich (R-OH) announced that he would oppose this resolution. Expressed his sadness with the actions of the Senate over the 2 days of this debate and explained that he is voting against S. Res. 445 because it was supposed to improve the manner in which the Senate overseas intelligence and homeland security issues, but “as of now, it will do no such thing.” (S10671)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OCTOBER 9, 2004

MILCON APPROPRIATIONS / CONFERENCE REPORT: The House agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 4837, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, by a yea-and-nay vote of 374 yeas with none voting “nay” (Roll #529). The report is cleared for the Senate’s consideration. The report appears on pages H9054-113. Rep Knollenberg (R-MI) said the bill reflects Washington’s commitment to the men and women of our Armed Services. Said the bill totals \$10 billion and “is in full compliance with the subcommittee’s 302(b) allocation for both budget authority and outlays.” Listed highlights of the bill: \$5.5 bil for Milcon; \$4.1 bil for family housing; \$82 million for chemical demilitarization construction; and \$246 mil for the BRAC account. Rep Edwards (D-TX) noted the bill includes \$11 billion in emergency funding for hurricane relief to civilian businesses and military installations. Also, there is \$2.8 bil for drought relief for farmers throughout the country. Said he was proud the committee had been able to lift the cap on the private/public military housing program. Remarked one major disappointment was that the bill funds vital housing, training, and day care facilities at a level that is \$500 million below what was funded before the Iraqi war began. Said he supported the President’s tax cut, but believed if they could find offsets to pay for the tax cut for corporations and “fishing tackle box manufacturers” then they should be able to find offsets to not cut funding for Milcon projects during a time of war. Rep Young (R-FL) briefly discussed the hurricane relief part of the bill. Believed they have now reached a level of funding to get the job done. Praised the Florida National Guard, under the leadership of General Barnett, for their efforts in protecting the property of home and business owners. Rep Boyd (D-FL) said the people of Florida have Rep Young to thank for fighting to get the additional funds for hurricane relief. Mentioned the damage to the naval air station in Pensacola. Rep Stenholm (D-TX) thanked MILCON Chairman Knollenberg and ranking member Edwards for their work. Said it would help the bases in his district, Dyess AFB and Goodfellow AFB, which are “extremely important to the troops back home.” Rep Farr (D-CA) rose in strong support of the bill. Mentioned in his district 2,000 homes are being built by the military alongside million dollar homes. Said these homes would be rented to members of the military at rates they can afford. Rep Harris (R-FL) said the \$929 million for the Small Business Administration would help provide disaster relief loans to individuals and businesses. (H9113-25, H9175-76)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OCTOBER 9, 2004

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS / CONFERENCE REPORT: The House agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 4567, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, by a ye-and-nay vote of 368 yeas to with none voting nay (Roll #530). The report is moves to the Senate. The report appears on pages H9125-62. Rep Rogers (R-KY) said the bill provides \$32 billion for the DHS, which is \$1.1 bil over the current level and \$496 million over the President's request. Noted, in addition to those amount \$8.5 bil is included for hurricane disaster relief. Listed highlights of the bill: \$4 bil for first responders; \$1.2 bil for urban security; \$9.8 bil for border security; and \$145 million for new inspection/detection technologies. In regards to transportation security, said there is \$673 mil for the Federal Air Marshals program and \$118 mil for air cargo screening. Rep Sabo (D-MN) rose in support of the bill but criticized the Homeland Security Dept for the way they operate. Said, "the basics are not there." Found the agency confused and mismanaged. Expressed concerns with some programs being underfunded. Said first responders are getting less than last year. Also, the Metropolitan Medical Response System, which predates the DHS, is being cut by \$20 million. Said one of the most serious cuts is to the formula-based grants program, which goes from \$1.62 billion to \$1.1 billion. Said this program provides money to States based on population and on plans to allocate the funds. Rep Turner (D-TX) said he was pleased the report contains more funding then the President's request, but it still underfunds the real needs of the department. Remarked the President continues to issue warnings that al Qaeda may attack anytime, but only requested a 4.6% increase in funds to protect our country. Argued America is not safe when 120,000 hours of terrorist-related wiretaps are untranslated by the FBI and when we fail to screen 100% of cargo on passenger planes. (H9162-74, H9176-77)

DOD AUTHORIZATION – CONFERENCE REPORT: The House passed the conference report to accompany H.R. 4200, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 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, by a ye-and-nay vote of 359 yeas to 14 nays (Roll #528). The report is cleared for the Senate. (H9175)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2004

House was not in session. Stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tues, Novmber 16

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS, OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

LATIN AMERICA / FOREIGN POLICY: Rep Towns (D-NY) drew attention to and inserted a paper by the Council on Hemispheric Affairs titled "US Southern Command Struggles to Justify Its Role in the War on Terror." Paper discusses the rising levels of US military assistance to Latin American countries aimed at countering "narco-terrorists". Rep Towns said the strengthened armies in the region raise concerns "about a possible reemergence of limits on free speech, human rights violations or even a return to military governments." (E1848) (Oct 10)

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS, OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

TRIBUTE: Rep Tanner (D-TN) paid tribute to Air Force 2nd lieutenant Bart Doyle, a constituent who graduated from the Air Force Academy in June and is currently stationed at Hurlburt Field, FL. Said Lt Doyle will attend pilot training in the spring. (E1848) (Oct 10)

TRADE / CIVIL AVIATION: Rep Tiahrt (R-KS) commended the Bush administration's decision to request a World Trade Organization ruling on the legality of subsidies to Airbus SAS from various European nations, and to withdraw the US from the 1992 agreement in which the US allowed a reasonable amount of such sanctions. Rep Tiahrt said "this is a step towards creating a level playing field for America's workers in the aviation manufacturing industry." (E1853) (Oct 10) Rep Dreier (R-CA) also praised the Bush administration's action with respect to the subsidies to Airbus. Said "By artificially propping up Airbus for decades, the EU has distorted the international market and undercut the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and workers." Concluded "Restoring full, free and fair competition to the international civil aircraft industry will benefit consumers, businesses, workers and investors on both sides of the Atlantic. I look forward to continuing to work with Ambassador Zoellick in advancing our open trade agenda." (E1875) (Oct 11)

SELECTIVE SERVICE / DRAFT: Rep Holt (D-NJ) expressed his opposition to H.R.163, the Universal National Service Act of 2003, a bill to reinstate the draft. Said he did not believe an active military draft system was currently necessary or advisable. Noted that he has joined Rep Tauscher (D-CA) in supporting legislation (H.R. 3696) to meet military manpower needs by temporarily increasing by 8 percent the end-strength numbers of our all-volunteer armed forces during the next five years and increasing enlistees' pay and benefits accordingly. Added that he had been contacted by many concerned parents and young adults about rumors that Congress and the administration were considering a return to the military draft to meet manpower needs. (E1885) (Oct 11)

MIDDLE EAST: Rep Conyers (D-MI) drew attention to and inserted the findings of the Independent Commission of Inquiry Into the Israeli Attack on the USS Liberty in June 1967. Noted that the Commission was headed by former CNO Admiral Thomas M. Moorer. Added that Adm Moorer presented his findings on Capitol Hill on October 22, 2003. Findings suggest that the Israeli attack on the US vessel was deliberate. (E1886-9) (Oct 11)

MILITARY PERSONNEL: Rep Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) discussed H.R.5328, a bill that she and Reps Tauscher (D-CA), Watson (D-CA), and Towns (D-NY) introduced recently and is cited as the "Preventing Sexual Assaults in the Military Act of 2000." Said the bill would "appropriate such funds as are necessary for fiscal years 2005 through 2007 to eliminate the backlog in processing DNA evidence, to ensure that testing takes place in a timely manner, to provide an adequate supply of forensic evidence collection kits at all domestic and overseas U.S. military installations, military academies, and theaters of operation, and to ensure that at least one military medical personnel member, who is trained as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) or Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE), is on duty at all times in the health care facility at a military academy, domestic military base, overseas military base, and theaters of operation, except where a memorandum of understanding is issued between the military installation and a local civilian hospital." (E1922-3) (Oct 11)

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS, OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

IRAQ: Rep Kind (D-WI) briefly discussed his recent trip to Iraq to assess the situation. Commended the US military personnel for doing a terrific job under dangerous circumstances. Said that while conditions for US forces have improved in the last year, he was surprised by the lack of progress in rebuilding Iraq's infrastructure. Rep Kind added "More international support would alleviate the high cost we are now paying in both lives and money as well as add legitimacy to what we are trying to accomplish with the Iraqi people. It is not a lost cause, yet. But our window of opportunity is closing rapidly. (E1853) (Oct 10)

DOD AUTHORIZATION: Rep Langevin (D-RI) expressed support for the conference report on H.R.4200, the FY05 DoD authorization, adopted by the House on October 9. Highlighted military health care and pay issues in the bill, applauding the 3.5% pay raise for military personnel, the extension of TRICARE benefits to non-active duty reservists, the phase out of the survivor benefit offset for military spouses reaching the age of 62, and the authorization of full concurrent receipt of retired pay for disabled military retirees rated 100%. Added, however, that he was somewhat disappointed that the conferees fell short in guaranteeing taxpayers savings and improved efficiencies in DoD contracting procedures. (E1952) (Oct 11) Rep Holt (D-NJ) also supported the conference report on H.R.4200, the FY05 DoD authorization, echoing the provisions mentioned by Rep Langevin above. Also applauded the funding for up-armored Humvees, stating that in his opinion US forces were very poorly served by Pentagon planners who sent them into combat without sufficient body armor. Called for increases in troops strength and said US forces were spread too thin in Iraq and elsewhere. (E1966) (Oct 11) Rep Owens (D-NY) thanked conferees on HR4200 for provisions that settle long-standing health care and compensation claims for workers in US nuclear weapons facilities of the Dept of Energy. Also said the bill would "guarantee Federal benefits for the uranium miners, millers and transporters made ill as a result of their work and covered under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Program, RECA." (E1967) (Oct 11)

VETERANS: Rep Schiff (D-CA) discussed the debt the country owes those wounded while serving their nation. Noted that as many severely wounded veterans are being discharged – the largest group since Vietnam - the Veterans' Administration is in the process of closing three hospitals and partially closing eight others. Expressed concern that the backlog of disability claims is growing in the VA medical system, and contrasted that with plans by the administration to cut 500 VA claims processors in FY05. Called upon the House to pass immediately H.R. 5057, "which will expand the Army's innovative Disabled Soldier Support System to all of the military services." Continued "The bill was introduced by my colleagues, Mr. *Ruppersberger*, Mr. *Hoyer*, and Mr. *Jones*, and enjoys support on both sides of the aisle. The DS3 program has helped more than 200 severely wounded soldiers to adjust to their new lives, but there are thousands more who need help." (E1961) (Oct 11)

MEASURES REPORTED, OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

SENATE

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2005". (S. Rept. No. 108-398) (Oct 11)

MEASURES REPORTED, OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

HOUSE

Conference report on H.R. 4837, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005 (H. Rept. 108-773) (Oct 9)

Conference report on [H.R. 4567](#), making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005 (H. Rept. 108-774) (Oct 9)

BILLS INTRODUCED, OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

SENATE

By Mr LOTT

S. Res. 463. A resolution authorizing the printing of a revised edition of the Senate Rules and Manual; considered and agreed to ([Oct 10](#))

By Ms MURKOWSKI

S. Res. 468. A resolution designating November 7, 2004, as "National Native American Veterans Day" to honor the service of Native Americans in the United States Armed Forces and the contribution of Native Americans to the defense of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary. ([Oct 11](#))

By Mr HARKIN

S. Con. Res. 144. A concurrent resolution to correct the enrollment of H.R. 4837 (FY05 milcon approps / emergency supplemental disaster and drought relief approps; considered and agreed to. ([Oct 11](#)))

HOUSE

By Ms HOOLEY (for herself and many others):

H.R. 5354. A bill to enhance the benefits and protections for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are called or ordered to extended active duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Education and the Workforce, Ways and Means, and Veterans' Affairs ([Oct 9](#))

By Mr LANGEVIN

H.R. 5356. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the placement in a national cemetery of memorial markers for the purpose of commemorating servicemembers or other persons whose remains are interred in an American Battle Monuments Commission cemetery; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs ([Oct 9](#))

COMMITTEE MEETINGS, OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

HOUSE

MILCON APPROPRIATIONS

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 4837, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005. ([Oct 9](#))

COMMITTEE MEETINGS, OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

HOUSE

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of [H.R. 4567](#), making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005 (Oct 9)

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11, 2004

No EC's of interest these dates
