

community's continued commitment to the Middle East peace process. And, again, it is a sign to the Israelis that they are not alone in their battle against terrorism.

President Clinton should also be commended for establishing an international counter-terrorism alliance involving espionage agencies of several nations. I am hopeful that this initiative will help ensure that terrorist threats will not be tolerated.

This bipartisan amendment is important because it, in concert with the summit in Egypt, puts the Senate squarely in support of Israel and squarely on the side of urging the Palestinians and the Arab states, with support from the United States, to move forcefully against the terrorist threat. I hope we will send a strong, united message of support for it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there be no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 3527) was agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time? There being no Senator seeking recognition, in my capacity as a Senator from the State of Montana, I suggest the absence of a quorum. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, after a lot of efforts, I believe we have a unanimous-consent request that will be fair to all and will give us a way to get to a conclusion on this legislation.

The majority leader feels strongly that we need to get this work completed. I think this will help us get there. So I ask unanimous consent that all remaining amendments in order to H.R. 3019 must be called up and debate concluded by 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 19, and that the votes occur in the order in which they were debated beginning at 2:15 p.m., Tuesday, March 19, and, following the disposition of the amendments, the Senate proceed to third reading and final passage of H.R. 3019, as amended, all without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object—I have no objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, there will be no further votes tonight, Friday or Monday; however, if you have an amendment to the omnibus appropria-

tions bill, under the previous agreement you must debate your amendment Friday, Monday, or Tuesday morning. I want to emphasize it seems to me that is more than fair. I know some Members have commitments on Friday or on Monday or on Tuesday, but surely they do not have commitments all of those days. So I think this will give us ample time to debate it. The votes will occur beginning at 2:15 on Tuesday.

Also, Senators should be on notice that the Senate is expected to debate the small business regulatory reform bill tomorrow under a brief time agreement and that a vote will occur on Tuesday, also, on the small business regulatory reform bill.

There could be other votes on Tuesday in relation to cloture on the White-water special committee and possibly a cloture vote with respect to the product liability conference report. Therefore, Senators should be on notice that a number of votes are expected to occur on Tuesday, March 19.

Further, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 9 a.m., Tuesday, the Senate resume the Boxer and Coats amendments regarding the abortion issue, and that there be 2 hours 45 minutes of debate to be controlled in the following manner: 1 hour under the control of Senator COATS, 30 minutes under the control of Senator BOXER, 1 hour under the control of Senator SNOWE, and 15 minutes under the control of Senator MURRAY, and that following the conclusion or yielding back of time, the amendments be laid aside to occur in the voting sequence beginning at 2:15 on Tuesday; and following the debate on the Coats and Boxer amendments, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate then resume consideration of the Murkowski amendment No. 3525.

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want to thank the distinguished Democratic leader for his efforts to get this agreement. I think it is fair. We do have some other efforts we are still working on, and certainly we are going to work in good faith to fulfill all that we have discussed tonight. I yield to the distinguished Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. I thank the acting majority leader for his comments and for his leadership in bringing us to this point.

The distinguished Senator from California had a misunderstanding about when the Coats amendment was going to be debated and has informed me it would be of great help to her if she could have 15 minutes in this debate. I wonder if we might modify the unanimous consent agreement to provide her with that opportunity.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that our previous agreement be amended to provide 15 minutes for Senator FEINSTEIN of California to be involved in this debate.

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

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I only want to complete my thought in urging colleagues to use the time we have available to us on Friday and Monday. We have 2 full days here. There is no reason why we ought not be able to use them to the fullest extent possible. Everyone now knows what the amendments are. They ought to be laid down and debated. We ought not lose the time we have available to us on Friday and on Monday.

So I urge my colleagues to come to the floor in the next 2 days to get that work done.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, did we get an agreement on the unanimous-consent request for the 15 minutes for Senator FEINSTEIN?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. We have agreement.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to join the Senator from South Dakota in urging Members to come and be involved in this debate. We have a lot of work to do next week on very important legislation. Members need to understand that we cannot do the work we have to do on Tuesday, Wednesday, and part of Thursday or part of Tuesday. So please be prepared to come to the floor and debate these issues on Friday and Monday, be prepared to work the full day on Thursday, too.

#### UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—SHORT-TERM CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate receives from the House the short-term continuing resolution—and it is the identical text of what I now send to the desk—the legislation be deemed agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. DOMENICI. I want to ask a question of the acting majority leader.

Mr. President, I ask the distinguished acting majority leader, on the calendar that we had previously agreed to on Monday, we were to take up as the first order of business the Grazing Reform Act. It was prescribed to be on the floor Monday and Tuesday. Might I ask, is it the intention of the leadership that we proceed to that immediately after the business which has just been described?

Mr. LOTT. It would be our intention, I say to the Senator from New Mexico, to proceed to that issue when this other is considered.

Mr. DOMENICI. I thank the Senator. Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I delightfully yield the floor.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

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

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT  
AGREEMENT—S. 942

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader, may proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 342, S. 942, the small business regulatory reform bill, and it be considered under the following limitations—90 minutes of total debate equally divided between the two managers, that the only amendments in order to the bill be the following: a managers' amendment to be offered by Senators BOND and BUMPERS and an amendment to be offered by Senators NICKLES and REID regarding congressional review; further, at the expiration or yielding back of all debate time, the bill and pending amendments be set aside, with the votes to occur on Tuesday, March 19, at a time to be determined by the two leaders, and, following the disposition of all amendments, the bill be read a third time, and the Senate then proceed to a vote on final passage of the bill, all without any intervening debate or action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE COMMUNICATIONS DECENCY  
ACT

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I have two articles that I will ask to be printed in the RECORD. There continues to be wholesale, gross, misleading statements with regard to the Decency Act that was included in the telecommunications bill.

Somehow we must respond to the whole avalanche of highly financed special interest groups who are opposed to the measure that overwhelmingly passed in the U.S. Senate and in the House of Representatives. I have no quarrel whatsoever with the process we incorporated in the measure to expedite the consideration by the courts.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD two articles, one from the Omaha World Herald of March 11, 1996, with the headline, "Internet Doesn't Fit Free-Press Concept," and another from the Omaha World Herald of March 13, 1996, with the headline, "Some Internet Fare Worse Than Indecent."

There being no objection, the articles were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INTERNET DOESN'T FIT FREE-PRESS CONCEPT

An illogical argument is being used to attack the Communications Decency Act, which was sponsored by Sen. J. James Exon, D-Neb. Some of the law's critics argue that

the Internet, a worldwide network of computers linked by telephone lines, should be free of Government regulation under the First Amendment's freedom of the press protection.

The anti-indecency law makes it a crime to transmit indecent materials by computer when the materials are accessible to children. Arguing that the law violates press freedom is a group of plaintiffs consisting of Microsoft Corp., the Society of Professional Journalists, the American Society of Newspaper Editors and an organization calling itself the Citizens Internet Empowerment Coalition.

Certainly the Internet provides many opportunities for research, rapid communication and entertainment. But a loose, dynamic computer network isn't a newspaper. The two have little in common.

Newspapers are published by companies that depend on the trust of their customers—their readers and advertisers—to stay in business. These customers know who is in charge. They know that a publisher ultimately is responsible for the newspaper and its contents.

A newspaper has editors who select what is to be published. They rank the news in importance and broad interest. They package it for ease of comprehension. They operate under the laws of libel. The newspaper can be held accountable and be ordered to pay damages if it intentionally and maliciously publishes false and damaging information.

The Internet has no comparable editors, no comparable controls, none of the continuous process of fact-checking and verification that newspapers engage in. No person or group of people is accountable for materials that appear on the Internet. Rather, its millions of users are free to send out whatever they choose, no matter how worthless, false or perverted it might be. The result can resemble a hodgepodge of raw and random facts and opinions. Some are worthy and valuable. Others are outright nonsense.

And no one stands behind the material disseminated on the Internet.

Congress passed the Exon bill to protect children. And properly so. It's ridiculous to claim that the mantle of press freedom should be stretched to protect computerized pornographers and predators.

[From the Omaha World Herald, Mar. 13,  
1996]

SOME INTERNET FARE WORSE THAN INDECENT  
(By Arianna Huffington)

If there is one problem with the recently signed Communications Decency Act, which makes it illegal to post "indecent" material on the Internet, it is its name. Discussions of indecency and pornography conjure up images of Playboy and Hustler, when in fact the kind of material available on the Internet goes far beyond indecency—and descends into barbarism.

Most parents have never been on the Internet, so they cannot imagine what their children can easily access in cyberspace: child molestation, bestiality, sadomasochism and even specific descriptions of how to get sexual gratification by killing children.

Though First Amendment absolutists are loathe to admit it, this debate is not about controlling pornography but about fighting crime.

There are few things more dangerous for a civilization than allowing the deviant and the criminal to become part of the mainstream. Every society has had its red-light districts, but going there involved danger, stigmatization and often legal sanction. Now the red-light districts can invade our homes and our children's minds.

During a recent taping of a "Firing Line" debate on controlling pornography on the

Internet, which will air March 22, I was stunned by the gulf that separates the two sides. For Ira Glasser, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, and his team, it was about freedom and the First Amendment. For our side, headed by Bill Buckley, it was about our children and the kind of culture that surrounds them.

There are three main arguments on the other side, and we are going to be hearing a lot of them in the year ahead as the ACLU's challenge to the Communications Decency Act comes to court.

The first is that there is no justification for abridging First Amendment rights. The reality is that depictions of criminal behavior have little to do with free speech. Moreover, there is no absolute protection of free speech in the Constitution. The First Amendment does not cover slander, false advertising or perjury, nor does it protect obscenity or child pornography.

Restricting criminal material on the Internet should be a matter of common sense in any country that values its children more than it values the rights of consumers addicted to what degrades and dehumanizes.

Civilization is about trade-offs, and I would gladly sacrifice the rights of millions of Americans to have easy Internet access to "Bleed Little Girl Bleed" or "Little Boy Snuffed" for the sake of reducing the likelihood that one more child would be molested or murdered. With more than 80 percent of child molesters admitting they have been regular users of hard-core pornography, it becomes impossible to continue hiding behind the First Amendment and denying the price we are paying.

The second most prevalent argument against regulating pornography on the Internet is that it should be the parents' responsibility. This is an odd argument from the same people who have been campaigning for years against parents' rights to choose the schools their children attend. Now they are attributing to parents qualities normally reserved for God—omniscience, omnipresence and omnipotence. In reality, parents have never felt more powerless to control the cultural influences that shape their children's character and lives.

The third argument that we heard a lot during the "Firing Line" debate is that it would be difficult, nay impossible, to regulate depictions of criminal behavior in cyberspace. We even heard liberals lament the government intrusion such regulations would entail. How curious that we never hear how invasive it is to restrict the rights of businessmen polluting the environment or farmers threatening the existence of the kangaroo rat.

Yet, it is difficult to regulate the availability of criminal material on the Internet, but the decline and fall of civilizations throughout history is testimony to the fact that maintaining a civilized society has never been easy. One clear sign of decadence is when abstract rights are given more weight than real lives.

It is not often that I have the opportunity to side with Bill Clinton, who has eloquently defended restrictions on what children may be exposed to on the Internet. When the president is allied with the Family Research Council, and Americans for Tax Reform is allied with the ACLU, we know that the divisions transcend liberal vs. conservative. They have to do with our core values and most sacred priorities.

REMEMBERING HALABJA

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, this weekend will mark the anniversary of one of