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Senate

The Senate met at 12:01 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we begin this new week with a renewed commitment to You. The words of Mother Teresa of Calcutta stimulate greater depth in our prayer: "Here I am Lord, body, heart, and soul. Grant that with Your love I may be big enough to reach the world and small enough to be at one with You."

We echo this sentiment, Father. As we begin this new week, astound us again with the limitless resources You offer us to do Your work. Remind us that Your power is released for leadership that follows Your priorities of righteousness, justice, and mercy. May our constant question be: "Lord, what do You want us to do?" Keep us humble with the conviction that we could not breathe a breath, think a thought, write with clarity, nor speak with persuasion without Your grace and gifts. So we move into this new week with deeper dependence on You and greater dedication to give You the glory for all that we are and have and are able to do. You are our Lord and our Saviour. Jehovah, our God. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ARLEN SPECTER, a Senator from the State of Pennsylvania, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

Mr. SPECTER. I thank the distinguished President pro tempore.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SPECTER. On behalf of our distinguished majority leader, Mr. President, I have been asked to make the following announcement.

Today, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 2 p.m. Following morning business, the Senate will begin consideration of S. 1052, the Mariana Islands legislation. As previously announced, there will be no votes during today's session of the Senate. Therefore, any votes ordered on the Mariana Islands bill will be scheduled to occur on Tuesday. Also on Tuesday, the Senate is expected to begin consideration of the nuclear waste bill. It is hoped that action on that legislation can be completed by the end of the week. I thank my colleagues for their attention.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that I may be permitted to speak in morning business next and following that, my distinguished colleague from Iowa, the senior Senator, Mr. GRASSLEY, may be permitted to speak in morning business for up to 8 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROBERTS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. SPECTER pertaining to the introduction of S. Res. 253 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Senator from Iowa is recognized.

PERMANENT NORMAL TRADING RELATIONS WITH CHINA

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I want to spend a few minutes talking

about two very important issues, one of which will come before the Senate later on this year, and that is the trade agreement with China which has just been negotiated. We call that permanent normal trading relations. The other subject is the WTO, which is an ongoing situation on which we probably will not take any action—at least negative action—this year, but it is something we always have to consider because every day and every hour there are certain decisions and discussions going on at the World Trade Organization that affect the U.S. economy.

On China and the permanent trade relations vote we are going to have, it is very important that we do this right and do it soon but not do it before we have all the information we need. It is also important to get China into the World Trade Organization.

We do not vote on China going into the World Trade Organization as a Senate, but it seems to me it is very necessary that we establish China with permanent normal trading relations with the United States in order to set the stage for China to be in the WTO.

This is the first time China has agreed to submit itself to international trade disciplines. That, in and of itself, is a very historic and important development. Clearly, China acts in its own national interest and, of course, the United States should act in its own national interest. That is why I say it is most important to our national interest to agree to rules by which we can conduct more open commerce with China. Common sense dictates that it is a win-win situation for the United States since we have few restrictions on imports of China's products into the United States. Basically, it is a no-brainer, as far as I am concerned, to accept their lowering barriers to our exports to that 1-billion-people Nation.

As far as the issue of human rights and national security—and they always come up when we discuss this issue with China—I believe the United States

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



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S345