(iv) medical and emergency relief services;

(B) identify community-based law enforcement, fire and rescue, and medical and emergency relief services needs;

(C) recommend new or expanded grant programs to improve community-based law enforcement, fire and rescue, and medical and emergency relief services;

(D) identify ways to streamline the process through which Federal agencies support community-based law enforcement, fire and rescue, and medical and emergency relief services; and

(E) assist in priority setting based on discovered needs.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Interagency Committee shall be composed of—

(A) a representative of the Office for State and Local Government Coordination;

(B) a representative of the Health Resources and Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services;

(C) a representative of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the Department of Health and Human Services;

(D) a representative of the Federal Emergency Management Agency of the Department;

(E) a representative of the United States Coast Guard of the Department;

(F) a representative of the Department of Defense;

(G) a representative of the Office of Domestic Preparedness of the Department;

(H) a representative of the Directorate of Immigration Affairs of the Department;

(I) a representative of the Transportation Security Agency of the Department;

(J) a representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice; and

(K) representatives of any other Federal agency identified by the President as having a significant role in the purposes of the Interagency Committee.

(3) ADMINISTRATION.—The Department shall provide administrative support to the Interagency Committee and the Advisory Council, which shall include—

(A) scheduling meetings;

(B) preparing agenda;

(C) maintaining minutes and records;

(D) producing reports; and

(E) reimbursing Advisory Council members.

(4) LEADERSHIP.—The members of the Interagency Committee shall select annually a chairperson.

(5) MEETINGS.—The Interagency Committee shall meet—

(A) at the call of the Secretary; or

(B) not less frequently than once every 3 months.

(e) ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an Advisory Council for the Interagency Committee (in this section referred to as the ''Advisory Council'').

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Council shall be composed of not more than 13 members, selected by the Interagency Committee.

(B) DUTIES.—The Advisory Council shall—

(i) develop a plan to disseminate information on first response best practices;

(ii) identify and educate the Secretary on the latest technological advances in the field of first response;

(iii) identify probable emerging threats to first responders;

(iv) identify needed improvements to first response techniques and training;

(v) identify efficient means of communication and coordination between first responders and Federal, State, and local officials;

(vi) identify areas in which the Department can assist first responders; and

(vii) evaluate the adequacy and timeliness of resources being made available to local first responders.

(C) REPRESENTATION.—The Interagency Committee shall ensure that the membership of the Advisory Council represents—

(i) the law enforcement community;

(ii) fire and rescue organizations;

(iii) medical and emergency relief services; and

(iv) both urban and rural communities.

(3) CHAIRPERSON.—The Advisory Council shall select annually a chairperson from among its members.

(4) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—The members of the Advisory Council shall serve without compensation, but shall be eligible for reimbursement of necessary expenses connected with their service to the Advisory Council.

(5) MEETINGS.—The Advisory Council shall meet with the Interagency Committee not less frequently than once every 3 months.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I would say to all those within the sound of my voice, this action has been cleared by both Senators THOMPSON and LIEBERMAN, the two managers of this bill.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent we proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 10 minutes each.

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

U.S. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION IN EUROPE

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, as chair of the Military Construction Appropriations Subcommittee, I have the opportunity and responsibility to take a close look at our military's construction needs throughout the world.

During our August recess, I chose to take a closer look at an initiative recently implemented by the Army in Europe called ''Efficient Basing''. This initiative is a two part process that will streamline the Army's infrastructure needs in Germany and in Italy.

The plan will direct much needed funds to consolidate U.S. bases throughout Germany, and better position an airborne battalion south of the Alps in Vicenza, Italy to more quickly respond to the possibility of crisis in the Transcaucasus, the Balkans, the Middle East and Africa.

Although the costs for this initiative could total nearly $1 billion when complete, there is little doubt that it will both dramatically reduce the long term costs of basing our forces in Western Europe and provide better strategic positioning for regional conflicts and the global war on terrorism.

This aptly named ''Efficient Basing'' initiative is being guided by the U.S. Army's European Commander in Chief, Gen. Montgomery Meigs. General Meigs invited me to Europe to take a closer look at the work in progress and allow him the opportunity to justify the costs associated with the program. As a result, I went to Camp Ederle, in Vicenza, Italy, and was able to see first hand the real efficiency of this tremendously large task and recognize the actual savings to be gained.

I would like to take a few minutes to recognize the degree of dedication and service to our country that is often overlooked.

Whether fighting a war, or carrying out the daily administrative tasks necessary to provide protection for America at home and abroad, our military commanders and the soldiers within their command display a level of dedication, efficiency, and selflessness that is awe inspiring.

We ask a lot of our soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen. And, without question, they are up to the task, whatever it might be.

Let me give just a couple of examples: In his nearly 35 years of military service, General Meigs and his wife, Mary-Ann have moved their family 24 times. That's not just soldier dedication, that's family dedication—all for the sake of our freedom. This sacrifice is recognized throughout the world, not only by Americans, but by our allies and partners as well.

In the wake of September 11, a strangely surprising and caring act took place on the part of our Italian allies. In less than 24 hours, the Carabinieri—Italian police—in a show of force protection, came out in large numbers to surround our Vicenza base, Camp Ederle.

The base didn't solicit their presence. It was given voluntarily.

Acts like this do not just happen—they take time and the creation of a rapport built on admiration and years of interaction with our commanders and soldiers. The actions of the Carabinieri was, in part, a response to a lasting friendship—a friendship forged by men like MG Robert Wagner, the Southern European Task Force, SETAF, Commander.

General Wagner, a shining example for all to follow, is one hundred percent engaged with the leaders of the community—the mayor, the director of the Carabinieri, and businesses leaders throughout northern Italy.

The relationships and mutual admiration did not just happen by virtue of his position. It was developed over time, by him and by his predecessors, who hosted dinners and got to know these leaders and their needs, as well as expressing his concerns for our soldiers and the community in which they live and work.

The relationship between General Wagner and the community is priceless, but the care and concern he expresses for his soldiers is even more evident.

I was pleasantly amazed by the spontaneously unsolicited comments by persons like the local base librarian, who takes pride in his facilities and the services that he is able to provide to