

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREE-  
MENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR  
NOS. 418 AND 436 THROUGH 450

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at a time determined by the majority leader, with the concurrence of the Democratic leader, the Senate may proceed to executive session for the consideration of Calendar No. 418, MG Robert T. Clark, to be lieutenant general in the Army; further, that there be 2 hours equally divided between the chairman and the ranking member; provided further, that under the time controlled by the minority, 40 minutes be allocated to Senator KENNEDY and 15 minutes to Senator DAYTON. I further ask consent that following the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to a vote on the confirmation of the nomination, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. I further ask unanimous consent that following the confirmation vote, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nominations en bloc, Nos. 436 through 450, and all remaining nominations on the Secretary's desk; further, that the nominations be confirmed, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of all of the above action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST  
TIME—S. 1862 THROUGH S. 1866

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand there are five bills, numbered S. 1862 through S. 1866, at the desk, and I ask that they be read for the first time en bloc.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1862) to provide certain exceptions from requirements for bilateral agreements with Australia and the United Kingdom for exemptions from the International Traffic in Arms Regulations.

A bill (S. 1863) to authorize the transfer of certain naval vessels.

A bill (S. 1864) to enhance the security of the United States and United States allies.

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Mr. FRIST. I now ask for their second reading and object to further proceeding on these matters en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will remain at the desk.

THIS WEEK IN THE SENATE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, in looking over the course of the last week, much

of the focus of the last 40 hours or so, the last 2 days, has been on the issue of judges. The three cloture votes failed this morning.

Earlier in the week, we really accomplished a reasonable amount, as I look over what we have done. The Syria Accountability Act—Chairman LUGAR and Senator SANTORUM and many others in the body who brought that forward had it debated, and it was passed. The MILCON conference report was completed this week, and the Defense authorization conference report. We had another bill, the armed cargo pilots bill. We had the District of Columbia Retirement Equity Act by Senator COLLINS and others.

Today, we had the OPIC reauthorization, which we just did, with a lot of bipartisan work done by Chairman LUGAR and others; a bill that has been worked on for a long period of time in a bipartisan way with Senator MIKE ENZI, the Workforce Investment Reauthorization Act, a lot of work reflected in that bill. I am glad we have completed action on that bill today.

With regard to the last 48 hours, I want to extend the comments that were made earlier by the Democratic leader a few hours ago in thanking everybody, expressing my heartfelt appreciation to all of the people who participated over what was a very long and challenging schedule the last couple of days: The Secretary of the Senate, Emily Reynolds, and her staff, Dave Tinsley and Allen Frumin, along with their team of legislative clerks and Parliamentarians; the folks in the Official Reporters of Debates and in Closed Captioning Services who worked around the clock; the Sergeant at Arms Bill Pickle, and all of his support staff, including Skip Rouse and his crew with Capitol facilities, for the around-the-clock services, everything from cots to different bedding materials; Myron Flemming and his doorkeepers who kept control of the galleries because we had a lot of people through over the course of the last 2 days; the Capitol Police who, as always, do such a superb job watching over this Capitol complex, keeping it safe, and very long hours through the night and through the morning with a lot of visitors in and out of the building; Margo Conner and Jorge Castro, along with the Senate restaurants that helped provide food and made sure we were all well fed over the course of the last couple of days; Joy Ogden and the women of the appointments desk for ably handling all of the many guests who came through; the Press Gallery, the folks in the Senate Library, Printing and Document Services, Information Systems, and the Senate pages with whom I was just talking a few moments ago, all for their willingness to help in any way; we have the floor staff here, the cloakroom staff in the cloakrooms behind us, all who helped to make things run as smoothly as possible.

A lot of staff are involved for each Senator. Behind each and every one are

a number of staff members on both sides of the aisle who worked very long hours.

As I got home very late last night, when I said hello to Karen, my wife, I realized I hadn't seen her in quite a few days. It made me realize, once again, that the Senators on this floor work long hours, and there is a lot of patience and a lot of understanding by Senate spouses who sacrifice their time for their loved ones, especially with a lot of understanding.

I thank my own staff who have worked with a lot of dedication, including Manny Miranda, Marty Gold, Ramona Lessen, Holly Nass, Brook Whitfield, Tom Craig, Meg Gregory, and Abby Clinton. I thank everybody who has participated in the last several days. It has been extraordinary in many ways, made possible by a lot of hard work.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER  
17, 2003

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 12 noon, Monday, November 17. I further ask that following the prayer and the pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then resume consideration of the VA-HUD appropriations bill.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, on Monday, the Senate will resume the VA-HUD appropriations bill. If Senators have amendments, they should be prepared to offer and debate those amendments during Monday's session. At 4:30 p.m. the Senate will resume consideration of the FAA reauthorization conference report. Under the previous order there will be 1 hour of debate prior to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the conference report. The cloture vote on the FAA conference report will occur at approximately 5:30 p.m., and that will be the first vote on Monday's session.

I would also remind my colleagues that two cloture motions were filed on the Dorr nomination today. Those cloture votes will occur on Tuesday morning.

Before closing, I see the distinguished Senator and colleague, the person who is most responsible in many ways for this Workforce Investment Reauthorization Act, Senator ENZI. I am happy to yield to him.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I thank the leadership on both sides of the aisle for bringing this bill to fruition at this point in time. I thank Senator GREGG for allowing me to work this issue through to this point. I thank Senator KENNEDY and Senator MURRAY for their