December 22, 1987

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—Extension of Remarks

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A LOUSY, ROTTEN WAY TO LEGISLATE

(By David Broder)

Washington—The next summit here will not be about the arms race but the spending race. The Senate has just taken each spending decision and voted it off so far this year, like it or not, linked to every other decision, and summed it all up—$68 billion worth—in a single massive piece of legislation called a continuing resolution or CR.

The House passed its version of the CR on Monday, December 21, little $576 billion copay, including 13 separate appropriations bills and a spate of unrelated legislation on broadcasting rules, environmental-cleanup delinquents and a few other stray cats and dogs.

When a conference committee of House members and senators has worked out the differences between the two versions of the CR, the final compromise will be dumped on President Reagan's desk for him to sign or veto. The Congress frees town for the Christmas holidays.

Reagan says that the way the package is shaping up, he will veto it—and he should.

This is, as House Majority Leader Robert H. Michel, R-Ill., said, "absolutely a lousy, rotten way to legislate." And that view is not, oddly enough, shared by Sen. David Pryor, D-Ark., who, as chairman of the Appropriations, Budget, and Revenue Committees and effectively thwarted the ability of the President, realistically, to veto the fiscally irresponsible actions of the Congress.

Members are faced on the eve of adjournment with the choice of rejecting the flawed product of this outrageous appropriation process and seeing the offices and activities of Government closed and stopped and faced with their constituents' lives being disrupted. Or, we are faced with accepting the bill with the good and avoiding those disruptions and faced with international and domestic ramifications of great consequences. Indeed, what a choice! The only choice is a rotten one.

As a result of a continued frustration with this corruptive appropriation process, earlier this day this Member signed a letter to the President of the United States, with many of my colleagues, in which I ask the President in his State of the Union message next year to vow that he will absolutely veto any continuing resolution coming to his desk in his last year in office.

The majority leadership of the House and Senate and of their relevant Appropriations and Budget Committees would thus be served with the earliest notice that they must perform their tasks at the earliest possible time in 1988, so that the Members of the two Houses can work their will on the 13 appropriation bills and the President can fulfill his constitutional role with the bills reaching his desk.

They would be served the earliest notice, in short, that in 1988 it will not be business as usual under the corruptive dilatory process Congress has adopted during the past two decades.

The relevant column of Mr. David Broder follows, and I urge my colleagues to read it carefully before we begin the second session of the 100th Congress.

RECONCILIATION: BUNDLING EVERYTHING INTO ONE BILL

HON. WILLIAM E. DANNEMEYER
Of California

Mr. Speaker, we have looming before us two legislative vehicles—an omnibus continuing resolution and a reconciliation package—which ought to have their distributable taken out, or at least given an EPA citation for fouling the air.

A CR, procedurally, is no way to legislate. There is no accountability, it is subterfuge of the worst kind, it makes a mockery of our legislative system, and it is for all practical purposes a way to lie and cheat.

We should not approve the CR and voice our disapproval by forcing the leadership to divide this monstrosity into 13 separate appropriations bills as it should be—so that we can correctly and honestly consider each one on its merits.

Reconciliation is the most ludicrously misnamed piece of political finagling ever devised by man or beast. We are reconciled to nothing save higher taxes and higher spending. It would be more appropriate to label it a congressional conveyer belt, or legislative barrel-groove. It would be far better to allow sequestration under Gramm-Rudman-Hollings to occur, barring a more preferable freeze on all spending. At least Gramm-Rudman-Hollings makes solid reductions in projected spending, whereas this reconciliation package, on the other hand, doesn't include substantial savings in spending; it makes some cosmetic changes and then increases taxes. Worse yet, it authorizes higher spending levels.

As a conference on the Medicare, part B provisions, I have seen how $800 million in new spending was authorized. Coupled with a matching $600 million which the States must come up with, that amounts to $1.6 billion in new authorization. We should be reducing spending, not adding to it. We are cheating. Mr. Speaker, it is not fair and it is not right.

REligious Hate Violence:
Targets Islamic Mosques

HON. MERVYN M. DYAMLLY
Of California

Mr. Speaker, there is a rash of religiously motivated attacks on mosques and Islamic places of worship.

In Los Angeles alone since October 1, there have been 12 bombings and an additional 37 spray-paintings.

This week the National American Muslim Council, in cooperation with Congresswoman Tom Hulbert and other friends of Islam, held a forum to bring local religious and political leaders together to discuss ways to combat the escalating violence.

The House-passed resolution, H. Res. 356, was introduced by Representatives Michael Honda, D-Calif., and Charles Hay. It was supported by religious leaders of all denominations.

The resolution called on the President, the Secretary of State, and Attorney General to take immediate action to address the violence.

Last week, I introduced H. Res. 357. It is a non-binding resolution expressing the sense of the House that 'the United States should take vigorous action to stop the escalating violence against mosques and Islamic places of worship.'
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mosque windows were broken. Threatening
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mosques received threats: "One down, three
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lence on a national scale:

national phenomena which made it necessary to
Arab ethnic background or Muslims and their
places of worship is by no means limited to
American's. The report for instance did not count two
places of worship inadvertently omitted from
3258, or its companion bill S. 794. I would like to bring up the
bid which is now in the Senate Judiciary Com-
for its swift deliberation and adoption of this
report is by no means all inclusive of vi-
ence against Islamic mosques and individ-
als. The report for instance did not count two
consecutive nights of violence which occurred
in late January at a mosque and an Islamic
center in downtown Los Angeles, and another
Islamic center in the South Bay area.

While the commission's 1987 annual report
shows a decline of religiously motivated vio-
lence against Islamic centers, mosques, and
individuals to 8.3 percent of the incidents that
year, nonetheless, this type of violence ranked
second, with violence against Jews ranking
first. Interestingly enough, violence against Is-
lamic institutions was greater than violence
against Catholic, Presbyterian, and Methodist
churches all put together. Yet, Islamic centers,
and mosques were inadvertently omitted from
H.R. 3258, or its companion bill S. 794.

This trend of violence against Americans of
Arab ethnic background or Muslims and their
places of worship is by no means limited to
Los Angeles County. Unfortunately, it is a na-
tional trend which made it necessary to hold a
July 16, 1986 hearing on this topic by the Subcommittee on
Criminal Justice of the House Committee on the Judiciary, at
which I testified.

Following is a short compilation of such vio-
lence on a national scale:

In Houston, TX, on June 22, 1985, the Eid
al-Fitr celebration had to be canceled because
of repeated death threats from anonymous
calls against the Muslim community at the
South-West Mosque. At 11:30 p.m., on the
same day, two homemade pipe bombs were
thrown from a truck through the window of the
mosque causing $50,000 in damages. Other
mosques received threats: "One down, three
to go."

In June and July 1985 mosques and Islamic
centers in San Francisco; Orange County, CA;
Dakar; Quincy, MA; and Dearborn, MI, were
vandalized. In Dearborn, MI, mosque windows were broken. Threatening
calls made in Orange County stated: "You people are dead."

Mr. Speaker, in the United States there are
now at least 3 million Muslims and over 600
mosques, and Islamic centers, including many in
the black community. Islam has become the
third largest religious community in the United
States. Islam, as you may know, is one of the
world's three monotheistic religions believing
in a single God. In fact, 20 percent of the
world's population is Muslim, constituting over 1 billion indi-
viduals. In light of the current anti-Muslim vio-
lence and disregard for religion's tolerance,
as guaranteed by our Constitution, I urge the
Senate Judiciary Committee, and later on the
conferences on this bill, to ensure the inclusion
of the following under the term "religious real
property." I trust the Senate would amend the bill ac-
cordingly.

SUPERCONDUCTING SUPER COLLIDER

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, December 21, 1987

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I
would like to take this opportunity to express
my support for the superconducting super col-
lider [SSC]. This accelerator will be one of the
most far-reaching scientific programs this
country has ever undertaken.

With each new generation particle accelerat-
tor, science has advanced further into the
realm of high energy physics where particle
physics and cosmology become unified. Ex-
periments performed with the SSC will reveal
aspects of the underlying structure of matter,
but the SSC will also provide insight into theo-
ries of the origin of the universe.

As a member of the California delegation, I
am especially enthusiastic about the level of
support for the SSC within the California State
government and among State business and
civic associations. California has submitted
two site proposals, one near Davis and the
other near Stockton.

There are many reasons why California
would be an excellent home for the SSC, but
my point today is not so much to promote California specifically as to encourage my
colleagues to consider what is at stake for this
country—regardless of where the accelerator
is eventually located.

The Department of Energy will complete its
review of site proposals in January. Each site
selected for the "Best Qualified List" will have
met the Department's stringent standards on
a wide range of any criteria. The final site recom-
mendation will be delivered by the National
Academy of Sciences/National Academy of

As the site selection process proceeds, I
urge my colleagues to remember the impor-
tance the SSC will have to our Nation as a
whole. Next year will be crucial as far as this
project is concerned, because it will require
the first major commitment of funds. The final site recom-
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The SSC is an investment well worth
making a whole new generation of diagnostic
imaging, in the field of medicine, for example,
the SSC could contribute $1 billion. The payoffs are im-
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