

merely because of the friendship between a man and his dog:

"The friendship of a dog is precious. It becomes even more so when one is so far removed from home as we are in Africa. I have a Scottie. In him I find consolation and diversion. For me he is the one 'person' to whom I can talk without the conversation turning back to the war. Duckworth is performing a patriotic service. I am confident you will view the situation similarly despite the natural desire to have this close companion of your gallant son."

Dr. East wrote Lt. Taff, apologizing for nearly separating him and Duckworth, and asked, "When you have returned to your wife and family, would you consider letting us keep him?" So Duckworth stayed, and the war went on.

Young Lt. Taff, daring, skillful and lucky, survived nearly 100 missions. His commanders decided he had given enough and sent him home. The squadron agreed that Duckworth should accompany him, that the dog, too, had gone the extra mile. Three days after their departure, Dr. East got a call from Chicago. "This is Harold Taff, came the words. 'I've brought Duckworth home to you and Mrs. East.'"

The Easts' Plainfield, N.J., residence was not the home Lt. East grew up in. When he entered the house, Duckworth was casual until he reached a room where the Easts had placed their son's possessions. He became excited, jumping on the son's bed. Then he sniffed out the clothing and uniforms in the closet. His every action confirmed that this room would be his. And so it was the rest of his days.

A couple of years later Dwight Eisenhower came to Columbia for a convocation honoring World War II leaders. Dr. East got a chance to greet Ike. "General, do you remember Duckworth?" he asked. The quick Eisenhower grin showed that he did. "You must be Dr. East," he said. "I'd sure like to meet that dog."

While Ike and Duckworth did not meet on the first occasion, there were opportunities to do so after the general became president of Columbia in 1948. What a fitting capstone it would have made for the little wartime morale booster had Ike and he become good friends at Columbia. But Dr. East's seven typewritten pages about Ike and Duckworth, filed in the university's archives, are silent on that possibility.

HONORING JOHN R. FOX

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, as we near the honoring of all our Nation's veterans through the celebration of Memorial Day, I would like to bring special attention to a World War II Army veteran from Boston, MA. On Christmas Day, 1944, 1st Lt. John R. Fox volunteered to serve as an artillery forward observer in the village of Sommocolonia, in the Serchio Valley, Italy. The following morning, trapped in a church steeple, Fox radioed his command to ask for artillery fire on his own position. No one at the artillery battalion command had ever heard such a request. They radioed back for clarification. John Fox answered, "There are hundreds of them coming. Put everything you've got on my observation post."

Mr. President, this is one of the most incredible acts of heroism about which I have ever heard. John Fox literally made the decision to sacrifice his life

for his country. He has, along with six other African American soldiers from World War II, been nominated for our Nation's highest honor, the Medal of Honor. I would like to pay tribute here not only to Lieutenant Fox, but to all black veterans from all American wars. Our great country will always be in debt to all the men and women who have given or risked their lives for the preservation of freedom. It is long past time that we properly honor those whose remarkable patriotism and sacrifices have not previously received the respect and attention they deserve. I am thankful that on this Memorial Day the proper steps finally are being taken to accomplish that.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Tuesday, May 21, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,115,827,182,802.62.

On a per capita basis, every man, woman and child in America owes \$19,312.52 as his or her share of that debt.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT OF THE COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 1994—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 148

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the provisions of section 13, Public Law 806, 80th Congress (15 U.S.C. 714k), I transmit herewith the report of the Commodity Credit Corporation for fiscal year 1994.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 22, 1996.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR FISCAL YEARS 1994 AND 1995—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 149

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by the provisions of section 3(f) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1862(f)), I transmit herewith the combined annual reports of the National Science Foundation for fiscal years 1994 and 1995.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 22, 1996.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 11:58 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2066. An act to amend the National School Lunch Act to provide greater flexibility to schools to meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans under the school lunch and school breakfast programs.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests, the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1009. An act for the relief of Lloyd B. Gamble.

H.R. 1483. An act to amend title 38, United States Code to allow revision of veterans benefits decisions based on clear and unmistakable error.

H.R. 2765. An act for the relief of Rocco A. Trecosta

H.R. 3373. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain veterans' benefits programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3415. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 4.3-cent increase in the transportation motor fuels excise tax rates enacted by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 and dedicated to the general fund of the Treasury.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 154. Concurrent resolution to congratulate the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of its first direct and democratic presidential election and the inauguration of its president.

H. Con. Res. 160. Concurrent resolution congratulating the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone on the success of their recent democratic multiparty elections.

H. Con. Res. 165. Concurrent resolution saluting and congratulating Polish people around the world as, on May 3, 1996, they commemorate the 205th anniversary of the adoption of Poland's first constitution.

H. Con. Res. 167. Concurrent resolution recognizing the tenth anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, and supporting the closing of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1009. An act for the relief of Lloyd B. Gamble; to the Committee on the Judiciary.
H.R. 1483. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow revision of veterans benefits decisions based on clear and unmistakable error; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2765. An act for the relief of Rocco A. Trecoasta; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3373. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain veterans' benefits programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

The following concurrent resolutions were read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 154. Concurrent resolution to congratulate the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of its first direct and democratic presidential election and the inauguration of its president; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 160. Concurrent resolution congratulating the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone on the success of their recent democratic multiparty elections; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 1788. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act to repeal those provisions of Federal law that require employees to pay union dues or fees as a condition of employment, and for other purposes.

The following concurrent resolutions were read and placed on the calendar:

H. Con. Res. 165. Concurrent resolution saluting and congratulating Polish people around the world as, on May 3, 1996, they commemorate the 205th anniversary of the adoption of Poland's first constitution.

H. Con. Res. 167. Concurrent resolution recognizing the tenth anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, and supporting the closing of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

David D. Spears, of Kansas, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the term expiring April 13, 2000.

Brooksley Elizabeth Born, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Brooksley Elizabeth Born, of the District of Columbia, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 13, 1999.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. BOND, from the Committee on Small Business:

Ginger Ehn Lew, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that he be confirmed, subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 1789. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to deny the payment of Social Security and supplemental security income benefits to prisoners, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 1790. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to increase the penalties for the manufacture, distribution, and possession of marijuana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SIMPSON (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 1791. A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 1996, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of such veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. CHAFFEE):

S. 1792. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow companies to donate scientific equipment to elementary and secondary schools for use in their educational programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GREGG:

S. 1793. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to provide that the requirements relating to making imported articles and containers apply to fresh cut flowers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. BRYAN):

S. 1794. A bill to amend chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for the forfeiture of retirement benefits in the case of any Member of Congress, congressional employee, or Federal justice or judge who is convicted of an offense relating to official duties of that individual, and for the forfeiture of the retirement allowance of the President for such a conviction; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ROTH:

S. 1795. A bill to restore the American family, enhance support and work opportunities for families with children, reduce out-of-wedlock pregnancies, reduce welfare dependence by requiring work, meet the health care needs of America's most vulnerable citizens, control welfare and medicaid spending, and increase State flexibility; to the Committee on Finance.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 1789. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to deny the payment of Social Security and supplemental security income benefits to prisoners, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

THE PREVENTION OF PRISONER DOUBLE-DIPPING ACT

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, a less formal but somewhat more revealing title for this bill would be "The Prevention of Prisoner Double-Dipping Act." A rose by any other name is still a rose and this bill is a winner by any name. It will save millions of dollars of the taxpayers' money and it will put a stop to the injustice of paying scarce Social Security disability benefits to prisoners charged with a felony who have been in jail for 30 or more days awaiting trial.

Current law prohibits payment of disability benefits to anyone in jail after conviction for a felony. A loophole permits prisoners to continue receiving benefits despite the fact that they are in jail if they have not yet been convicted of the crime charged. This bill will close that loophole.

Mr. President, I learned that prisoners are continuing to receive these benefits when Sheriff Mike Joyce of Stokes County, NC, wrote me earlier this year about it. Sheriff Joyce wrote to me about Earl Blevins, a career criminal and convicted murderer, who has been in Stokes County jail since December 16, 1995, awaiting trial on charges of larceny and breaking and entering. Incredibly, Blevins has been receiving disability payments since 1988, even though as Sheriff Joyce stated, Blevins obviously is healthy enough "to run from a bloodhound and hide up under leaves under a tree."

Until last month, when Blevins was convicted of unrelated felony charges in Surry County, he was receiving \$450 per month in disability payments while Stokes County taxpayers were picking up the tab for his room and board and other care.

Mr. President, Sheriff Mike Joyce is a fine law enforcement officer. His outrage about the Federal Government's paying prisoner Blevins \$450 per month in Social Security disability benefits while he is in jail awaiting trial on yet another felony charge, will be matched by the outrage of the public at large once they learn about it.

The point is this: Earl Blevins and other career criminals prey on law-abiding citizens. When they are apprehended, their food, clothing, shelter, and often their legal fees are paid for by the very citizens whom the criminals have victimized. It is unwarranted salt rubbed in the taxpayer's wounds that these predators are allowed by law to collect disability benefits while awaiting trial. This bill will change that law.

The purpose of Social Security disability payments is to provide a minimum income to beneficiaries in order to insure that they have access to food and shelter. A prisoner awaiting trial is already being provided these needs and the taxpayers are paying the bill. Prisoners should not be allowed to "double-dip" into the pocket of taxpayers.