

camps in Zaire. The lack of proper asylum for legitimate Rwandan refugees became one trigger for the current civil war in Zaire, which in turn triggered attacks on Zaire's refugee camps. Significant numbers of Rwandan refugees continue to die in central Zaire.

The *Bulk Challenge*—a freighter packed with Liberian refugees fleeing violence and chaos in their country—was turned away from one West African port after another last May.

Burmese refugees in Thailand suffered cross-border attacks on their camps in 1996, while Thai authorities offered little security. In recent months, there have been instances of Thai authorities preventing New Burmese asylum seekers from entering Thailand and forcibly returning those who have managed to cross the border.

Iraqi Kurds who fled to Iran last September returned to Iraq by the end of the year because the quality of asylum offered by Iranian authorities was so poor. The close proximity of the camps to the border allowed them to be shelled from Iraq, while basic services were lacking. When the Iraqis began returning to their country under questionable circumstances, UNHCR was not permitted access to the camps.

"The deterioration of asylum is not only an African phenomenon," said Winter. "The problem can be found in every corner of the world and even in our own backyards as the recent changes in U.S. asylum law shows," he said. The new U.S. asylum law, which went into effect in April, makes it harder for asylum seekers to apply for asylum, in part through a summary removal procedure for persons arriving with false documents, the only way many asylum seekers can flee repressive governments.

Other Western governments are also taking a more restrictive approach. In Germany, authorities are seeking to withdraw asylum for Bosnians prematurely. Authorities there recently ended temporary protected status for Bosnians and are beginning to send them back to an unstable situation in Bosnia, which is short on housing, landmine sweeping, jobs, freedom of movement, and tolerance.

The 1997 World Refugee Survey reports that although the total number of refugees, internally displaced people, and asylum seekers is at a seven-year low of roughly 34 million people, the reasons are complex. While human rights conditions have sufficiently improved for refugees to repatriate to Guatemala, Haiti, Mozambique, and Cambodia, refugees elsewhere have been forcibly repatriated to unsafe conditions. At least 18 countries, including the United States, forcibly expelled refugees or insufficiently screened asylum seekers in 1996.

Founded in 1958, the U.S. Committee for Refugees (USCR) is a private humanitarian agency which defends the rights of refugees, asylum seekers, and displaced persons worldwide.

COUNTRIES THAT DAMAGED ASYLUM PRINCIPLES IN 1996

(This is a selected list and should not be viewed as comprehensive)

- The Bahamas (denied asylum to Cubans)
- Bangladesh (denied asylum to and forcibly repatriated Burmese)
- Cote d'Ivoire (denied asylum to Liberians)
- Germany (announced intention to forcibly repatriate Bosnians)
- Ghana (denied asylum to Liberians)
- Hong Kong (forcibly repatriated Vietnamese)
- Iran (provided inadequate asylum for Iraqi Kurds and expelled Afghans)
- Lebanon (provided inadequate asylum to Palestinians)
- Tanzania (forcibly repatriated Burundians and some Rwandans and denied asylum to Burundians)

Togo (denied asylum to Liberians)

Turkey (denied asylum to Iraqi Kurds, expelled Iraqis and Iranians)

United States (provided inadequate asylum procedures for Cubans)

TRIBUTE TO MAJ. (P). RANDY O'BOYLE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, when people think of special operations forces, the image that immediately comes to mind is that of the Army's Green Berets and Rangers, or the Navy's SEAL's. Few realize that the Air Force has a special operations element which is robust and impressive. Air Commandos, Combat Controllers, and ParaRescue personnel have all made important contributions to military operations and National Security over the past five decades, and today, I rise to pay tribute to one member of that community, Major Randy O'Boyle, who is about to assume command of the 551st Flight Training Squadron.

For the past several years, Major O'Boyle has been a tireless and diligent advocate as the Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs for the United States Special Operations Command. In that capacity, he has worked closely with Senators, Representatives, and their staffers in order to explain the missions and needs of this unique, joint-service Command. In the process he has helped to give Members of Congress a better understanding of the capabilities of our Nation's special operators and has provided us with the information necessary for us to help shape policy and the future of our special warfare elements.

Major O'Boyle was particularly effective in his job as he brought with him to Washington both extensive experience as an Air Force Officer and as a special operator. An accomplished pilot, Randy O'Boyle has literally thousands of hours behind the stick of the Air Force's Pave Low helicopter, an aircraft specifically modified to support special operations. During Operation Just Cause, Randy demonstrated his abilities as a pilot and his coolness under pressure as he flew combat operations in support of Army, Navy, and Air Force special forces personnel as they fought to liberate Panama from the grasp of the dictator Manuel Noriega. Major O'Boyle's experience and expertise was put to good use a little more than a year later during the Gulf War, where he played an instrumental role in helping to plan the coalition forces' first strike into Iraq, kicking off Operation Desert Storm. His intimate knowledge of what is required of both a successful tactical and planning officer provided Major O'Boyle with an unusual insight to how the Special Operations Command functions. His understanding of what the needs of Special Operations personnel are, from the newest member on a Special Forces or SEAL Team to the Commander of one of the SOCOM Theater

Commands, assured that he was able to speak knowledgeably and eloquently on literally every aspect of special operations. In addition, his easy-going Midwestern demeanor, engaging personality, and quick-witted sense of humor all assured that he established a bond with those he worked with both in the Department of Defense and in the halls of Congress.

As Major O'Boyle leaves Washington and heads west to the famed painted landscapes of New Mexico, he leaves many friends who have enjoyed working with him during his assignments here. Though the ranks of the Special Operations Command are filled with nothing but capable individuals, I am certain that SOCOM Legislative Affairs will miss Major O'Boyle's positive and determined attitude and his effective representation of the Command. Without a doubt though, the young Air Commandos who will come under his command at the 551st Training Squadron will benefit greatly from his tutelage. I am especially pleased to note that Randy will pin on the silver oak leaf of a Lieutenant Colonel on June 1, I hope that he continues to enjoy great success in the years to come.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:42 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 84. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the U.S. Government for fiscal year 1998 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002.

At 1 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 26. Concurrent resolution to permit the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a congressional ceremony honoring Mother Teresa.

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

H.R. 1306. An act to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to clarify the applicability of host State laws to any branch in such State of an out-of-State bank.

H.R. 1650. An act to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Mother Teresa of Calcutta in recognition of her outstanding and enduring contributions through humanitarian and charitable activities, and for other purposes.

At 4:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 543. An act to provide certain protections to volunteers, nonprofit organizations, and governmental entities in lawsuits based on the activities of volunteers.

MEASURE REFERRED

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of the following measure which was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs:

S. 156. A bill to provide certain benefits of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River Basin program to the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was read and placed on the calendar:

H. Con. Res. 84. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the U.S. Government for fiscal year 1998 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 1306. An act to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to clarify the applicability of host State laws to any branch in such State of an out-of-State bank.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1950. A communication from the Chairman of the National Defense Panel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the assessment of the May 1997 quadrennial defense review; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1951. A communication from the Director of the Washington Headquarters Services, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Civilian Health" (RIN0720-AA40) received on May 16, 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1952. A communication from the Secretary of U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (RIN3235-AH07) received on May 16, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1953. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel of the Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, five rules including a rule entitled "Technology Innovation Challenge Grants" (RIN1810-AA82); to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1954. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Policy, Management Staff, Office of Policy, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, five rules including a rule entitled "Drug Labeling" (RIN0910-AA45); to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1955. A communication from the Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, transmitting, a draft of proposed

legislation to make technical amendments to the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1956. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "The Adult Basic Education and Literacy for the Twenty-First Century Act"; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1957. A communication from the Secretary of Education and the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National Service, transmitting jointly, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "The America Reads Challenge Act of 1997"; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1958. A communication from the Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Increased Fine for Notice Posting Violations" received on May 12, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1959. A communication from the Chairman of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1960. A communication from the President of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1961. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets" received on May 12, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1962. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Education for Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1963. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Training and Employment Guidance Letters No. 6-96, 7-96" received on April 22, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1964. A communication from the President of the U.S. Institute of Peace, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the audit for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 459. A bill to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to extend certain authorizations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-20).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on Armed Services:

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following-named officer for appointment in the U.S. Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of impor-

tance and responsibility under title 10, United States Code, section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. John W. Handy, 0000

IN THE ARMY

The following-named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, United States Code, section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. James W. Darden, 0000
Brig. Gen. Michael E. Dunlavy, 0000
Brig. Gen. Michael T. Gaw, 0000
Brig. Gen. George O. Hillard III, 0000

To be brigadier general

Col. Richard W. Hammond, 0000
Col. John R. Tindall, 0000
Col. Gary C. Wattner, 0000

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following-named officer for appointment in the U.S. Marine Corps to the grade indicated under title 10, United States Code, section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Terry L. Paul, 0000

IN THE NAVY

The following-named officers for appointment in the U.S. Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, United States Code, section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (1h) Joan M. Engel, 0000
Rear Adm. (1h) Jerry K. Johnson, 0000

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services, I report favorably 4 nomination lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and the Navy which were printed in full in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS of January 28, April 25 and 28, 1997, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar, that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

(The nominations ordered to lie on the Secretary's desk were printed in the RECORDS of January 28, April 25 and 28, 1997, at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

* * In the Air Force there are 686 appointments to the grade of colonel and below (list begins with Neal A. Andren) (Reference No. 172)

* * In the Army Reserve there are 41 appointments to the grade of colonel (list begins with James A. Adkins) (Reference No. 305)

* * In the Navy there are 2 appointments to the grade of commander and below (list begins with Thomas P. Yavorski) (Reference No. 308)

* * In the Navy there are 381 appointments to the grade of captain and below (list begins with Craig L. Herrick) (Reference No. 309)

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. MURKOWSKI:

S. 771. A bill to regulate the transmission of unsolicited commercial electronic mail,