

Following the declaration of war against Japan, the warships, submarines, and aircraft of the Asiatic Fleet singly or in task forces courageously fought many naval battles against a superior Japanese armada. General Douglas MacArthur evacuated most U.S. military personnel and equipment from the region to prevent them from being destroyed by Japan's military forces, leaving the Asiatic Fleet alone, without reinforcement, to do what it could to obstruct the Japanese advance. During these battles, the men of the Fleet discovered that much of their equipment was defective. It has been estimated that one in three of the Asiatic Fleet's torpedoes, and one fifth of its anti-aircraft ammunition, were duds. Forced to rely on World War I-era equipment, the Asiatic Fleet directly suffered the loss of 22 ships, 1,826 men killed or missing in action, and 518 men captured and imprisoned under the worst of conditions. Many of those who survived later died while being held as prisoners of war. The Asiatic Fleet ceased to exist as a cohesive fighting force on March 1, 1942, when its flagship, the U.S.S. *Houston*, was sunk by the Japanese near Indonesia.

Unfortunately, the heroism of the sailors and marines of the Asiatic Fleet are largely unknown to the American public. Today, March 1, 2000, the 58th anniversary of the *Houston's* sinking, I want to commend the bravery, resourcefulness and sacrifices of all who served in the United States Navy Asiatic Fleet from 1910 to 1942, especially those sailors and marines who put their lives in harm's way during the first few months of America's participation in World War II. No words can adequately express our nation's debt to its veterans, and it is essential that we provide them with the thanks and recognition they have earned. The American people should always remember the courage and determination displayed by the personnel of the Asiatic Fleet, honoring the sacrifices they made in defense of the United States.●

HONORING THE U.S. COAST GUARD'S ROLE IN THE SUCCESS OF GREAT LAKES SHIPPING

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the men and women of our U.S. Coast Guard. In particular, I salute the crew of the USCGC *Mackinaw* for their work, which ensures the full utilization of the navigation season in my state, and the Great Lakes region as a whole.

Mr. President, the ice that forms on the Great Lakes rivals that found anywhere in the continental United States. Even in a normal winter, ice six to eight feet thick will develop in the connecting channels. Windrows, chunks of ice piled atop one another by the wind, easily can reach 15 feet in height. Navigation under such conditions has been possible only because the Coast Guard's icebreaking forces are led by the *Mackinaw*. The ice-

breaker is capable of generating 10,000 shaft horsepower, and is wide enough—75 feet—to clear a track for Great Lakes vessels. Furthermore, the *Mackinaw* is crewed sufficiently to stay on station for days on end.

Annually, more than 10 million tons of iron ore, 4 million tons of coal, 1.5 million tons of stone, and 500,000 tons of cement are shipped across the Great Lakes. The iron ore, coal, stone, and Seaway trades generated nearly 14 billion tons of cargo during the 20th century. That commerce could not have been accomplished as safely and efficiently as it was without the assistance of the U.S. Coast Guard, and especially, the *Mackinaw*.●

INTERNATIONAL ABOLITION DAY

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I rise to mark International Abolition Day. This day marks the occasion in 1847 when the state of Michigan became the first English-speaking territory in the world to abolish capital punishment. As one of the first acts following conferral of statehood on Michigan, the Michigan legislature abolished the death penalty for all crimes except treason. I note, with tongue and cheek and with all due respect to my distinguished colleagues from Michigan, that the date marking International Abolition Day probably should be 1853, when my great state, the state of Wisconsin, became the first state to abolish the death penalty for all crimes. Wisconsin has been death penalty-free for nearly 150 years. It is clear that the people of the Midwestern states have shown great courage and leadership on this issue since almost the birth of our great Nation.

Mr. President, International Abolition Day is a day to remember the victims and survivors of violent crimes perpetrated by individual criminals. But it is also a day to remember those killed by state-sponsored executions. And it is a day for education and discussion of alternatives to the death penalty.

Just as the people of Michigan over 150 years ago learned the painful reality of the fallibility of our criminal justice system and confronted the death penalty's main use, as a tool of vengeance, people throughout the United States today are beginning to question their longstanding support for the death penalty. On January 31, Governor Ryan effectively imposed a moratorium on executions in Illinois until a state panel can examine the administration of the death penalty and why so many innocents have sat on Illinois' death row. In a recent Gallup poll, even though a majority of Americans still support the death penalty, support for the death penalty is at a 19-year low. And when asked whether Americans prefer the death penalty or life imprisonment without the possibility of parole, support for the death penalty drops even further.

These are just some of the many positive developments that have nur-

tered the reawakening of the American conscience to the great responsibility and stain that state-sponsored executions place on our society. I look forward to the day when our federal government and the 38 states with the death penalty will recognize the adequacy of sentencing alternatives and abolish this barbaric punishment for all time.●

SPARKMAN HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATION IN THE "WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION" PROGRAM

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, on May 6-8, 2000 more than 1200 students from across the United States will be in Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals of the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program. I am proud to announce that a class from Sparkman High School from the city of Harvest will represent my home state of Alabama in this national event. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experience have gained a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress. These hearings consist of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges. The students testify as constitutional experts before a congressional committee, that is, the panel of judges representing various regions of the country and a variety of appropriate professional fields. The student testimony is followed by a period of questioning during which the judges probe students for their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge. Columnist David Broder described the national finals as "the place to have your faith in the younger generation restored."

The student team from Sparkman High School is currently conducting research and preparing for the upcoming national competition in Washington, DC. I am extremely proud of the students and teacher and wish them the best of luck at "We the People" national finals. I look forward to greeting them when they visit Capitol Hill.●

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT MICHAEL SULLIVAN

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Naval Officer and fellow Arizona citizen, Lieutenant Michael Sullivan, who has served with distinction for the past eighteen months in the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs. It is a privilege for me to

recognize his many outstanding achievements and to commend him for the superb service he has provided to the U.S. Senate and to our great Nation as a whole.

Lieutenant Sullivan is a graduate of my alma mater, the United States Naval Academy. I had the great honor of addressing his class at his graduation in May 1993. Similar to myself, academic honors had eluded him but the standards at the Naval Academy are such that simply surviving the four years reflects great credit upon his ability and dedication. When it was his turn to walk across the stage, he shook my hand and exclaimed, "Go Navy and Go Arizona!" I shared in his enthusiasm and we embraced in a bear hug as I handed him his diploma.

Lieutenant Sullivan proceeded to Surface Warfare Officer School in Newport, Rhode Island, before reporting to the U.S.S. *Fife* (DD-991) which was forward deployed to the U.S. Seventh Fleet in Yokosuka, Japan. On *Fife* he served as the Auxiliaries Officer and Fire Control/Strike Missile Systems Officer. Following that arduous tour, he reported to the U.S.S. *Antietam* (CG-54) as the Combat Information Systems Officer. Among his notable accomplishments, he distinguished himself in 1997 by being named a Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Junior Officer Shiphandler of the Year. In July 1998, Lieutenant Sullivan joined the Navy's Senate Liaison team and helped the Senate ensure that our Navy remained the best trained, best equipped, and best prepared Naval force in the world.

Mr. President, Lieutenant Sullivan represents the very best of America's most precious resource—her youth. With being a commissioned officer come responsibilities so immense and so important that the lives of all Americans and the welfare of much of the world will be directly affected by how well they discharge them. I have every confidence that Lieutenant Sullivan will continue to acquit himself with distinction. As he now departs for the next of many more tours at sea, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him fair winds and following seas.●

● Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Naval Officer and fellow Arizonian, Lieutenant Michael Sullivan, who has served with distinction for the past year and a half years in the Navy's Senate Liaison Office on Capitol Hill. It is a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and to commend him for the superb service he has provided this legislative body, the Navy, and our great Nation.

Lieutenant Sullivan comes from a patriotic family. His grandfather was a submariner during World War II and his father is a Navy veteran of the Riverine Force in Vietnam. The Sullivan Family lived in the Bronx, New York before moving to the great state of Arizona. Lieutenant Sullivan at-

tended elementary and middle public schools in Scottsdale and ultimately graduated from Saguaro High School. He was attending the University of Arizona, and I was still a Member of the House of Representatives, when he applied for the most privileged of responsibilities I have as a Member of Congress—making a nomination for appointments to the U.S. Service Academies. It was with great pride that I had submitted his name to attend the United States Naval Academy where he graduated and earned his commission in 1993.

Lieutenant Sullivan joined the Navy's Senate Liaison team in July 1998, following successful sea tours on board the U.S.S. *Fife* (DD-991) and the U.S.S. *Antietam* (CG-54). During his service as a Navy Liaison Officer he provided members of the Senate and our personal staffs with timely support and accurate information on Navy plans, programs, and constituent casework. He has helped us maintain the best trained, best equipped, and best prepared Navy in the world.

Mr. President, Lieutenant Sullivan has served proudly with a dedication and enthusiasm that only comes from our Nation's best and brightest. Lieutenant Sullivan is a great credit to both our Navy and our country. As he now departs for Department Head School and his next sea tour, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him the best for a continued brilliant Navy career.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:44 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1749. An act to designate Wilson Creek in Avery and Caldwell Counties, North Carolina, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

H.R. 2484. An act to provide that land which is owned by the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota but which is not held in trust by the United States for the Community may be leased or transferred by the Community without further approval by the United States.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 613. An act to encourage Indian economic development, to provide for the disclosure of Indian tribal sovereign immunity in contracts involving Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1749. An act to designate Wilson Creek in Avery and Caldwell Counties, North Carolina, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2484. An act to provide that land which is owned by the Lower Sioux Indian

Community in the State of Minnesota but which is not held in trust by the United States for the Community may be leased or transferred by the Community without further approval by the United States; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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-7818. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7819. A communication from the Under Secretary, Acquisition and Technology, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1999 of the test and evaluation activities of the Foreign Comparative Testing Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7820. A communication from the Managing Director, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of 2000 base salary structures for Executive and graded employees; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7821. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community Eligibility; 65 FR 8664; 02/22/2000", received February 28, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7822. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "List of Communities Eligible; 65 FR 8662; 02/22/2000", received February 28, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7823. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation of Short-Term Natural Gas Transportation Services; Regulation of Interstate Natural Gas Transportation Services" (Order No. 637, Docket Nos. RM98-10-000 and RM98-12-000, 90 FERC Paragraph 61,109 (Issued 2/9/00)), received February 28, 2000; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7824. A communication from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Termination of Designation of the State of Minnesota with Respect to the Inspection of Poultry and Poultry Products", received February 28, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7825. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fenprothrin, Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL # 6492-6), received February 28, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7826. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Imidacloprid; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL # 6493-2), received February 28, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.