

Sherron Britt, 31, St. Louis, MO; Khary Daley, 24, Boston, MA; Willie Ennett, 23, Detroit, MI; Monroe Gibson, 23, New Orleans, LA; Hemenorio Gonzalez, 45, San Antonio, TX; Wilbert Hooten, 64, Chicago, IL; Fernando Marquez, 32, Chicago, IL; Jim Rest, 58, Minneapolis, MN; Terrence Roberts, Detroit, MI; Paul Trapp, 50, Detroit, MI; Sam Wright, 35, Detroit, MI; Unidentified male, 77, Nashville, TN.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD'S RAIL MERGER MORATORIUM

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise to commend the Surface Transportation Board for issuing its rail merger moratorium, which has just been upheld by the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. We on the Commerce Committee have been watching the railroad industry closely these last several years and we believe time is needed to reevaluate where the industry has been and where it should be going. To have moved forward with a new round of mergers now would have been shortsighted and not in the public interest. I am pleased that the Board had the courage to call a time-out on rail mergers to reexamine its rail merger policy before proceeding further at this important crossroads for the rail sector. I am also gratified that the Court shared my view, and the view of many of us in the Senate, that the Board has the authority to do what needs to be done.

WILDLIFE AND SPORT FISH RESTORATION PROGRAMS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, today I rise on behalf of the men and women of this country who value hunting and fishing as an important part of their lives. I am one of them, and I know I am not alone in the Senate. Many of my colleagues have joined me as members of the Sportsmen's Caucus, and I am pleased that we enjoy such strong support. In my home state of Montana, hunting and fishing are incredibly important. These are some of the activities we engage in to enjoy our beautiful outdoors. Hunting and fishing give us the chance to spend time with our families, and to take part in the traditions that generations of Montanans have enjoyed.

It is this strong tradition that brings me here today. There has been a grave injustice dealt to America's sportsmen. I am referring to the abuse of Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson funds by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These are funds from the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs which impose an excise tax on the equipment hunters and fishermen buy. Then the tax monies from the sporting goods are used for things like wildlife habitat and hunter safety programs. These programs were started in 1937, with the strong support of both the sportsmen who pay the tax and the states who administer the projects.

As years went by, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service which manages the programs, started straying further and further from the original intent of Pittman-Robertson funds. After an oversight investigation by House Committee on Resources, chaired by Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, it was found that the Fish and Wildlife Service was using Pittman-Robertson for purposes far outside the intent of the law. Funds were used for everything from foreign travel to grants for anti-hunting groups and programs that work against the interests of hunters. This is just plain wrong, and goes against everything the program was originally intended to accomplish.

In response to the abuse uncovered by his Committee, Mr. YOUNG introduced legislation to fix the problems. Part of the legislation caps the administrative expenses for the program and sets in stone what is an authorized administrative expense. This is a step in the right direction, because it will restore the integrity to this program. His bill, H.R. 3671, passed the House on April 5th with an overwhelming vote of 423-2.

I am proud to be included as a cosponsor of the Senate version of this bill, S. 2609. My colleagues from Idaho, Mr. CRAIG and Mr. CRAPO, have modeled it after H.R. 3671 and included provisions for valuable programs like hunter safety, as well as a multi-state conservation grant program. This bill ensures that the money sportsmen pay for wildlife conservation and hunter safety is actually used for those purposes and restores the accountability that has been missing for too long. It is time we made this right, and earned back the trust of the people we are here to serve.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, July 14, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,666,749,557,909.16 (Five trillion, six hundred sixty-six billion, seven hundred forty-nine million, five hundred fifty-seven thousand, nine hundred nine dollars and sixteen cents).

One year ago, July 14, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,624,307,000,000 (Five trillion, six hundred twenty-four billion, three hundred seven million).

Five years ago, July 14, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,933,039,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred thirty-three billion, thirty-nine million).

Twenty-five years ago, July 14, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$531,818,000,000 (Five hundred thirty-one billion, eight hundred eighteen million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,134,931,557,909.16 (Five trillion, one hundred thirty-four billion, nine hundred thirty-one million, five hundred fifty-seven thousand, nine hundred nine dollars and sixteen cents) during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HEALTHY CULTURE INITIATIVE

• Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the ground-breaking and encouraging work being performed by the Healthy Culture Initiative, a non-profit group with which I am honored to be associated. The Healthy Culture Initiative (HCI) is an organization committed to strengthening and improving the health of America's culture by recognizing and replicating the many innovative, local initiatives aimed at solving community challenges.

The Healthy Culture Initiative recognizes that there are many challenges we face as a nation—over the last thirty years, we have seen huge increases in family breakdown, out-of-wedlock births, single parent families, teen suicide, drug abuse, violence, and civic disengagement. But for every problem in America, there is already a solution—a solution that is in place in neighborhoods across America. Indeed, many of the most effective solutions to the complex social problems of crime, drug abuse, family breakdown, teen suicide, illegitimacy, and poverty arise from the committed efforts of a small group of individuals working within their own community.

The Healthy Culture Initiative seeks to recognize these exciting efforts, and encourage their replication. HCI has four primary objectives:

First, through a series of Success Summits to be held in cities across America, the Healthy Culture Initiative will recognize, and help replicate, community-based solutions to pressing social challenges.

Second, the Healthy Culture Initiative will jump-start important civic dialogue about ways that ordinary people, working alone or in small groups, can help strengthen families, schools, neighborhoods, and ultimately, our Nation.

Third, HCI will measure the success of new initiatives. In conjunction with the Gallup organization, the Healthy Culture Initiative will work to quantify the actual results of each new initiative launched, so that resources and attention can be concentrated on the most effective efforts.

And finally, HCI will develop a network of information resources, including web links and educational materials, to assist community activists in initiating new programs in their neighborhoods.

I can personally attest to the exciting work undertaken by the Healthy Culture Initiative, in that I and Senator JOE LIEBERMAN, currently serve as honorary co-chairs. I am excited by the caliber and quality of individuals who are leading this initiative—including Don Clifton, President and CEO of the Gallup Corporation; Charles Krulak, former Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, Executive Director Cindy Cobb; Don Eberly, CEO of the

National Fatherhood Initiative, Curt Smith of the Hudson Institute, Jay Spiegel of the Reserve Officers Association, and many others.

The plans of the Healthy Culture Initiative are ambitious and wide-ranging. It is my hope that by celebrating the many exciting success stories taking place in our communities across America, we can encourage their replication—and build a healthier culture, and a stronger America.●

225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. ARMY

● Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the 225th Anniversary of the United States Army and ask unanimous consent that an article written by the Chief of Staff of the Army, General Eric K. Shinseki, which pays due tribute to the U.S. Army and its contributions to our freedoms be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

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THE ARMY AT 225: A NEW PATRIOTISM (By Eric K. Shinseki)

WASHINGTON—In two weeks, Mel Gibson's latest movie, "The Patriot," opens nationwide. Set during the American Revolution, it is the story of a colonist who becomes a militia leader when the sweep of war and the advance of the British endanger his farm and family.

Whether by design or mere coincidence, the release of "The Patriot" comes at a particularly fitting time in our nation's history because this month marks the 225th anniversary of the birth of our Army.

The birth of our Nation and the birth of our Army are inseparably linked.

A year before we formally declared our independence, we had already begun fighting for it at Lexington and Concord and the Battle of Bunker Hill, the bloodiest single engagement of the Revolution. On that small piece of ground, over the course of one day, the British lost a staggering 1,054 regulars. The colonists lost about 440.

After Bunker Hill, the British would never again underestimate the tenacity and fighting spirit of the American soldier. These early engagements surprised the British, who saw themselves as professionally trained soldiers and the militiamen as little more than a disorganized rabble.

But let us not forget that we surprised ourselves as well. Despite our dogged determination to confront the foe, we were unproven and uncertain of our abilities. Who could have imagined that our ill-equipped and untrained colonial militia would fare as well as it did? Our success in those early battles was significant.

The victories strengthened national pride, engendered new confidence and bolstered the will to fight. When word spread down the coast that New England farmers had successfully stood up to the well-equipped and well-trained British regulars, colonists everywhere were filled with newfound courage and patriotic fervor. Frustration turned to motivation, and from that point on, the cry for independence simply would not be quelled.

On June 14, 1775, Congress took the first formal step in the march toward independence by voting to establish what was then the Continental Army.

In those days, the term patriot more closely equated to insurgent. A patriot was a revolutionary who promoted the independence of his people from the country or union of countries that controlled them.

From the British perspective, patriots were criminals; to them, the term was an epithet carrying the negative connotation of disloyalty. Thus, in 1775, when George Washington dubbed the original rag-tag band of fighters "the patriot army," he was making a profoundly political and deliberately inflammatory statement; this newborn army would win independence for America.

Over time, the word "patriot" evolved to a more heroic meaning—a person who loves his country and who defends and promotes its interests. It is especially applied to soldiers who fight for love of country. Thanks to the success of the American Revolution, the connotation of that simple term changed from one of disloyalty to one of allegiance.

Since the end of the Revolution, American soldiers, imbued with the spirit of the original patriots, have pledged their allegiance to this nation through their sacrifices in uniform. In doing so, hundreds of thousands of them have given their last full measure of devotion in ultimate demonstration of love for country.

Today, thousands of soldiers serve around the globe to maintain our freedom and to provide the promise of a better life to others for whom liberty is but a dream. They are the finest men and women the nation has to offer—active, guard and reserve soldiers doing the heavy lifting so we can enjoy the comforts and freedoms of our way of life.

They are unknown to most of us, but they sacrifice daily in places like Kosovo, Saudi Arabia, Bosnia, East Timor, Kuwait, Korea and Macedonia in order to promote democracy and to preserve peace and stability.

These men and women are our patriots. They are prepared to defend our country, and they are also the best ambassadors for democracy we could have, carrying the same torch of liberty that was lit 225 years ago. In the remotest corners of the globe, American soldiers command respect because they symbolize the traits of our forefathers; a passion for liberty and a willingness to fight to protect freedom.

As we reflect on the Army's 225th birthday, let us remember that with our Army was born a nation; with that nation was born democracy; and with democracy was born the hope that peace and liberty could someday be attained by all oppressed peoples of the world.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the presiding officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 8:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hayes, one of its reading clerks,

announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 3544. An act to authorize a gold medal to be presented on behalf of the Congress to Pope John Paul II in recognition of his many and enduring contributions to peace and religious understanding, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3591. An act to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan in recognition of their service to the Nation.

H.R. 4391. An act to amend title 4 of the United States Code to establish sourcing requirements for State and local taxation of mobile telecommunication services.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

MEASURE REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3323. An act to designate the Federal building located at 158-15 Liberty Avenue in Jamaica, Queens, New York, as the "Floyd H. Flake Federal Building."

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-551. A resolution adopted by the Assembly of the State of Wisconsin relative to the Washington Juneteenth 2000 National Holiday Observance; ordered to lie on the table.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 29

Whereas, more than 130 years old, Juneteenth, National Freedom Day is the oldest and only African-American holiday observance in the United States, which is also known as "Emancipation Day," "Emancipation Celebration," "Freedom Day," "Jun-Jun" and "Juneteenth"; and

Whereas, Juneteenth National Freedom Day commemorates the survival, due to God-given strength and determination, of African-Americans, who were first brought to this country stacked in the bottom of slave ships in a month-long journey across the Atlantic Ocean, known as the "Middle Passage"; and

Whereas, approximately 11,500,000 African-Americans survived the voyage to the New World (the number that died is likely greater), only to be subjected to whipping, castration, branding, rape, tearing apart of families and forced submission to slavery for more than 200 years after arrival in the United States; and

Whereas, Juneteenth commemorates the day on which freedom was proclaimed to all slaves in the South by Union General Granger, on June 19, 1865, in Galveston, Texas, more than 2.5 years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln; and

Whereas, for the first time, in over 130 years of the annual celebration, Juneteenth has finally been "officially recognized" as Juneteenth Independence Day in America by the President and Congress of the United States; and

Whereas, this reality is particularly underscored by the fact that it was in the 1st Session of the 105th Congress, via the bipartisan cooperation of former Congresswoman Barbara Rose-Collins (D-Michigan, former Senator Carol Mosley-Braun (D-Illinois), Congressman J.C. WATTS (R-Oklahoma), former