

of our subcommittee, provides that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, better known as NOAA, will have a \$6 million authorization for a 5-year period to, first of all, develop a new flood warning index that will give the public, the media, and emergency management officials more useful information about the risks and dangers posed by expected floods.

We have done very well in this country in terms of tornado warnings, we have done very well in terms of hurricane warnings, and we have saved not just hundreds, but thousands, of lives over the past few decades with these new warning systems that have been in place. But we have ignored the need to warn people about floods; and not just about the general nature of a flood, but we have to outline roughly the boundaries of the expected flood so people know when to evacuate before the water hits them. So this bill will help develop the new flood warning index that will be understandable by the public, can be easily broadcast by the media, so that we can give warnings out so people will know precisely what to do before the flood hits.

The second aspect of the bill is that it will conduct research and develop, new flooding models, to improve the capability to more accurately forecast inland flooding due to tropical storms. Most people are not aware of the fact that deaths from hurricanes are not from these strong winds that come in from offshore. Most of the deaths are due to floods which occur when the hurricane moves inland and drops huge amounts of rain with resulting flood waters occurring.

It is an excellent bill. I was very pleased to work with the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE) on this bill. We have perfected it in every way possible. It will serve the people of our Nation well. I urge that we pass this rule and then pass the bill.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY).

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the leadership of the Committee on Rules and appreciate the leadership of the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my strong support for the Inland Flood Forecasting and Warning System Act and urge all Members to vote for this important, truly lifesaving, measure.

Mr. Speaker, when flood water starts to pour through your front door, it does not care if you are a Republican or Democrat, and for this reason I am pleased to be an original cosponsor in working on this common-sense bill with my colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE), and fellow Texan, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL).

When it comes to hurricanes and tropical storms, the gulf coast of Texas

where I am from is pretty experienced. The hurricane season is something we prepare for, we monitor daily and we have grown to live with.

However, we were hit especially hard by Tropical Storm Allison, and it was extremely difficult to see lives lost and people left homeless in its aftermath. Tropical Storm Allison was the costliest tropical storm in U.S. history, both in terms of life and in property damage. That means homes, things people have worked their lives for. More than 50 people died. The storm caused more than \$5 billion in damage throughout the Southeast United States, but especially in our Houston area, where 35 inches of rain fell in just a few days.

The amount of flooding and the unprecedented damage caused by Allison surprised even the most experienced among us. It has caused our communities to wonder whether we are doing all we can to prepare for and prevent this level of damage in the future.

This legislation is a big step forward in the right direction. It would help prepare residents for future natural events like Allison by finding ways to improve the weather system modeling and early forecasting. It would allow NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to develop an inland early warning index so we would understand how severe these storms could be, and then to train our emergency management personnel in improving these methods.

Here is the key point: Research that leads to earlier, more accurate forecasting is a sound investment, an awfully sound investment. So is finding new ways to alert communities to inland flooding. Flooding affects all of us in the United States, as the gentleman from Michigan (Chairman EHLERS) told us.

In conclusion, I will tell you, no one can control the weather, but we can certainly control our preparation for it. This bill will help provide inland residents with the warning system that raises the awareness of the destructiveness of such storms so we can protect ourselves, our families and our property, as well as ultimately lowering tax costs to the United States taxpayers.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this very important bill.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I will just simply close by reminding my colleagues that this is a fair and open rule for a good bill, and I would urge my colleagues to support the rule and support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I also would urge all of my colleagues to support the rule as well as the underlying legislation, for which the debate will now begin shortly.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I yield back the bal-

ance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2733, ENTERPRISE INTEGRATION ACT OF 2002

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 474 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 474

*Resolved*, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2733) to authorize the National Institute of Standards and Technology to work with major manufacturing industries on an initiative of standards development and implementation for electronic enterprise integration. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill. Each section of the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. QUINN). The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my friend, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us is an open rule that provides for consideration of H.R. 2733, the Enterprise Integration Act of 2002. The rule allows

for 1 hour of general debate and provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science shall be considered as an original bill for the purposes of amendment. Priority in recognition will be given to Members whose amendments were preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, today the House will consider H.R. 2733, the Enterprise Integration Act. The bill authorizes the National Institute of Standards and Technology to work with major manufacturing industries to set standards for developing and implementing electronic enterprise integration.

Before the Internet, factories were automated on their own with no consideration of how to share manufacturing data. Factories installed software packages that best met their individual needs or customized software to address particular problems. This resulted in a typical supply chain where suppliers used a variety of different and incompatible software packages.

The burden resulting from incompatible software was more pronounced further down the supply chain as smaller companies had to comply with all the manufacturers higher up the chain. These companies, who must bear the greatest burden, tend to be the ones least able to afford multiple software systems.

However, the Internet and other technological advances have made it possible for manufacturing companies to work together electronically, something that was impossible just a few years ago. This seamless exchange of information, along with the vertical supply chain, is known as enterprise integration.

For example, if Ford Motor Company decided to change a design specification for a bumper, every one of the suppliers that contribute to that part would then have the ability to easily and quickly see the new specification and how it would impact their component.

□ 1100

This integration helps large and small businesses all along the supply chain to reduce costs and productivity times.

A 1999 study commissioned by the National Institute of Standards and Technology estimated that enterprise integration in the auto supply chains of General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler would result in a potential savings of at least \$1 billion annually.

This estimated savings from just select companies in the automobile industry is an example. Similar savings are also possible all across other industries such as shipbuilding, major construction, home-building, furniture manufacturing, and electronics manufacturing, just to name a few.

One solution to compatibility problems in design and manufacturing is to develop standards for the exchange of product data. Through this legislation, the NIST, which has 20 years of experi-

ence in this area, will be tasked to work with government and industry representatives to identify and develop ways of enterprise standardization and integration.

The measure also requires NIST to work with companies and trade associations to raise awareness of enterprise integration activities, as well as developing training materials for businesses to participate in an integrated enterprise.

Manufacturers today must be more flexible, efficient, and responsive to the changing needs and preferences of consumers. The European Union understands the importance of enterprise integration and has already been aggressively developing standardized protocols in such areas as I have talked about. In order to maintain and remain competitive to ensure that international standards are compatible with U.S. software packages, the United States must be active in helping to develop these standards.

Mr. Speaker, in this day where technology is so intertwined with our economic prosperity, we must take the necessary steps to streamline our operations and ensure that there is coordination from top to bottom. I commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT), the chairman of the Committee on Science, and the Committee on Science for taking this necessary first step to ensure that our manufacturing industries are not only able to function more efficiently, but also to remain competitive worldwide.

I urge my colleagues to support this fair and open rule, as well as the underlying legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the open rule. Again, Mr. Speaker, this is an entirely non-controversial measure that might have been put on the suspension calendar, but nevertheless, it is an important measure for many regions of the country, including my own district in upstate New York, and I urge its favorable consideration.

Mr. Speaker, the manufacturing sector remains one of the most critical economic engines of the U.S. economy. My region of the country, with a combination of Fortune 500 companies, as well as midsize and smaller firms, has emerged as the leading per capita exporting city in America. Many of our smaller and midsize firms have become the lifeblood of our community and, indeed, have led the Nation in innovation and expansion. These firms know the critical importance of a coordinated exchange of information up and down the supply chain.

With the emergence of the World Wide Web, international standards for

product data exchange greatly accelerated the movement toward electronically integrated supply chains during the last half of the 1990s. European and Asian countries are investing heavily in preparing their smaller manufacturers to do business in the new environment. European efforts are well advanced in the aerospace, automotive, and shipbuilding industries and are beginning in other industries, including home building, furniture manufacturing, textiles, and apparel. This investment could give overseas companies a major competitive advantage in the months and years to come.

The legislation before us today will give the small manufacturers in the United States access to the same electronic integration that the large firms enjoy. The measure would increase efficiency and productivity throughout all sectors of our economy by providing technical and financial assistance to small and medium-sized businesses.

I was pleased to see in this legislation that the National Institute of Standards and Technology would spearhead these efforts. With a long history of working cooperatively with manufacturers, and the nationwide reach which of its manufacturing extension program, the institute is in a unique position to help the United States, large and small manufacturers alike, in their responses on this challenge.

Moreover, the institute will involve the Manufacturing Extension Program, MEP, which I know firsthand is making a real difference in my district. The MEP program, through High Tech Rochester, has assisted more than 1,000 small manufacturing firms within my district. Established in 1987, High Tech Rochester has been a force in the region's economy. By 1997, High Tech Rochester could boast that its client base had collectively realized a 2½-fold growth in employment and a \$43 million increase in sales to \$61 million. Enterprise integration, as provided for in this bill, would provide High Tech Rochester and other successful MEP programs throughout the Nation with a promising new tool to assist the small manufacturing firms.

Mr. Speaker, I have seen what a difference this kind of support can make for not only existing small manufacturers, but for manufacturing start-ups. High Tech Rochester's business incubator supports fledgling small businesses by helping them to spin off, creating new companies to diversify the economy, making it stronger in the long run.

I have been a strong supporter of High Tech Rochester's business incubator program which, over the past 4 years, has successfully supported dozens of start-up companies to ensure that they survive in their first years in business. It has been a tremendous success. In the year 2000, four companies

"graduated" from the facility and moved to new larger facilities in our community. By their graduation, the combined numbers grew from 13 to 61, a nearly 370 percent increase. In 2001, the facility graduated twice as many firms, and we look forward to them doubling the success of their predecessors.

It is my firm hope that other regions of the country will benefit from similar programs, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Grand Rapids, Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), the rocket scientist from the Republican Conference.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

In 1994, when I first arrived in this Congress, I was absolutely astounded. I went to my office and, first of all, found that I did not have a computer in my office, but when I tried to use staff computers to send e-mails, I discovered that I could send an e-mail more easily and more rapidly to Moscow than I could to a colleague 20 feet down the hall. Why was that? Because in the House of Representatives, we had allowed a system to develop that did not have standards for the whole House of Representatives, and each Representative had a kingdom where they had set their own standards for their computer systems. Each individual system could not talk to each other.

When the Republicans took the majority, then Speaker Gingrich put me in charge of standardizing the system. Today, we have a system that seamlessly allows over 10 million e-mails a month to flow between offices in this Capitol, saving us a lot of money and a lot of staff time. That is an illustration of what we can accomplish with standards. Without standards, this place barely functioned in terms of Internet usage, e-mail and Web sites. Today, with standards, it functions extremely well, and the American people have access to each and every one of us almost instantaneously, and the American public, through Web sites, can receive information on our activities instantaneously.

This bill is about something similar. It will help industry by setting standards—standards for enterprises working together. Let me give an example.

A smaller auto parts supplier from my district visited me recently. As my colleagues know, in Michigan we make a lot of automobiles and we have many auto parts suppliers around the State. He had a good business. But he commented that he was working very well with the Japanese manufacturer. He was making parts for this manufacturer, who manufactured cars in this country, and they had a good system working together.

Everything was computerized, everything was set up from the beginning so

each side knew exactly what the other was doing, and they could relate to each other well. But with the American manufacturers, they did not have that relationship. They were trying to establish it, but it was going to be different than the one with the Japanese manufacturer, so he was going to have to have two different systems to deal with these two different manufacturers.

That does not make sense, and that is what this bill is about: so that small businesses such as this gentleman's can be assured that whichever manufacturer he makes parts for, he will be able to use the same communication system via the Internet, and that his business will flourish, because it will reduce his expenses tremendously.

This bill will help both large and small manufacturers alike, because it will cut costs and improve efficiency. By taking advantage of information technology such as the Internet and other parameters relating to that, our manufacturing industry will be able to fully integrate their supply chain so information will be able to flow freely up and down the supply chain.

This integration, however, will require the development of standards on how the information is going to be exchanged between businesses within a supply chain. Going back to my example of the small parts supplier working with the Japanese manufacturer and American manufacturer, each of them thinks their own standards are the best. There has to be some outside force that works out the differences and gets agreement.

This bill will provide that outside force by supporting this integration through authorizing the National Institute of Standards and Technology, better known as NIST, to work with industry to identify what research, testing, and development needs to be undertaken to develop these information exchange standards. NIST has been in the standards business for over 150 years. They are experienced at this. They are experts at bringing together different parties and establishing standards, and this is the logical place to put this particular effort.

This legislation provides NIST an authorization of \$47 million over 4 years, starting with \$2 million in fiscal year 2002 and ramping up to \$20 million in fiscal year 2005; and with this money, they will be able to carry out this effort.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this rule and this legislation. Small and large businesses in America will benefit from it. I urge my colleagues to vote for this rule and this bill.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Rochester, Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me

this time. I rise in support of this rule and this bill.

There is an old expression that ideas in children are brilliant when they are your own, and we have a problem sometimes with technology because we have one group who has an idea and another group that has an idea, and they begin to speak different languages. What this bill, the Enterprise Integration Act of 2002, is about is ultimately getting everybody talking the same language.

Imagine, for example, if we had a situation where pilots from one airline here in the United States spoke Greek and the next one spoke Latin and the next one spoke German; what we want them all speaking is the same language.

It is said that 50 percent of our economic growth over the next 10 years is going to come from small business. It is also said that more than 50 percent of our economic growth is going to come from technology. This is the way we tie together small business and technology. This is a very, very important bill in the long-term economic future of this country, and particularly for our small businesses here in the United States.

Let me take a minute, though, to say what a wonderful agency the National Institute of Standards and Technology is. I have had the chance to visit two of their campuses, and I cannot tell my colleagues enough how impressed I am with the scientists who work there. The National Institute of Standards and Technology is involved in all kinds of basic research. They study everything from fire to atomic clocks, and they do it very well and they do it on a very limited budget.

□ 1115

In fact, I was so impressed when the chairman and I went out to Boulder, Colorado, to see the way they do business out there at their labs to see how much duct tape they are using in their various labs, and this is very high technology that they are working on. They do not waste any of the taxpayers' money, but what they do best is come up with standards so that various industries are all working on the same language, and the language of science is something that is probably way above my ability to completely understand, and we are delighted to have the good doctor being a very important part of this discussion, but I understand this: if we can get big business and small business, manufacturers and suppliers, all using the same language, both the big business, the small business, the consumer, everyone; the American economy will benefit.

This is a very important piece of legislation. I hope Members will join me in supporting the rule and the bill.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Committee on Rules brought this rule forward. It is great legislation. It makes sense. It will aid not

only small business but encourage the opportunity for big business and small business to be more competitive around the globe. In my prior life, I worked for a company that was called Bell Communications Research, formerly known as Bell Labs. It was our mission at that time to make sure that we ensured the standards for the telecommunications industry were the same across the United States, albeit the world.

The ability to speak together in the same language, as the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) talked about, is so critical to the success of people who are trying to provide products worldwide. This not only makes sense, what we are doing, but it will help America be more competitive. I wholeheartedly support not only this rule but the underlying legislation. And I would say, Mr. Speaker, that this is a great bill; and I urge my colleagues to support this.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### INLAND FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING SYSTEM ACT OF 2002

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SESSIONS). Pursuant to House Resolution 473 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2486.

□ 1118

##### IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2486) to authorize the National Weather Service to conduct research and development, training, and outreach activities relating to tropical cyclone inland forecasting improvement, and for other purposes, with Mr. QUINN in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS).

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2486, the Inland Flood Forecast and Warning System Act of 2002.

Mr. Chairman, everyone talks about the weather, but no one does anything about it. That is a famous statement I remember from my youth, but I am here today to talk about a way that we are going to do something about the weather.

When it comes to hurricanes, wind speeds do not tell the whole story. Hurricanes produce storm surges, tornadoes, and often the most deadly of all, inland flooding. While storm surge is always a potential threat, more than half of all deaths associated with tropical cyclones during the last 30 years are due to inland flooding.

Inland flooding can be a major threat to communities hundreds of miles from the coast. In 1999, Hurricane Floyd killed 48 people and caused nearly \$3 billion in property damage, primarily because of flooding of inland communities. The severity was quite unexpected because these communities are 50 to 100 miles inland from hurricane landfall. However, this type of flooding has become all too common.

While the National Weather Service has the ability to accurately predict most flood events, it has difficulty in forecasting inland flooding events that are caused by tropical cyclones.

In addition, the flood warning index currently used by the National Weather Service for all flood events does not include enough information about the potential risks and dangers posed by expected floods. This index defines floods as minor, moderate, or major. Sometimes the category is accompanied by a warning of a comparable flood from another year. However, most major floods happen several years or even decades apart, so this information may not be very helpful. We need only to watch the news during the past few weeks as flooding in Texas has caused the deaths of many people.

It is time for a new warning system that will provide more information to emergency managers and the public and will save lives in the process.

This bill, H.R. 2486, the Inland Flood Forecasting and Warning System Act of 2002, provides the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, lovingly known as NOAA, an authorization of \$5.75 million over 5 years to do several things: first, improve the capability to accurately forecast inland flooding, including flooding influenced by coastal and ocean storms, through research and modeling; second, develop, test, and deploy an inland flood-warning index that will give the public, the media, and emergency management officials more accurate information about the risks and dangers posed by expected floods; third, train emergency management officials, National Weather Service personnel, meteorologists, and others regarding the improved forecasting techniques for inland flooding, risk-management techniques, and the use of the new flood-warning index; and, fourth, conduct research, outreach, and education activities for local meteorologists, media, and the public regarding the dangers and risks associated with inland flooding, as well as the use and understanding of the new inland flood-warning index.

Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr.

ETHERIDGE) for introducing this important bill. It was my pleasure to work closely with him in perfecting it.

I might add, Mr. Chairman, that the two bills before us this day coming from my subcommittee were both authored by Democrats, and in both cases I worked very closely with them. That is a good example of the bipartisanship that one experiences on the Committee on Science, and I believe is a model for other committees, as well.

It was the district of the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE) that suffered the loss of 48 people in 1999 because of the unexpected severe inland flooding caused by Hurricane Floyd. I appreciate his leadership by responding with this legislation, which will help communities to more fully understand the risks and dangers of floods. We worked together closely during consideration of the bill in the Committee on Science to ensure that the new flood-warning index would help all our States, whether landlocked or coastal.

But, more importantly, I am confident that training managers in the use of this new index and educating the public on its meaning and importance will save lives.

This bill received strong bipartisan support in the Committee on Science, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this important and timely piece of legislation.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2486, the Inland Flood Forecasting and Warning System Act of 2002. This legislation was developed by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE), who has done a good job on it. He has worked on it for quite some time. I have great admiration for the gentleman. He is from the home State of my father and most of my family. He is a gentleman, and good to work with.

This bill has strong bipartisan support, not only on the committee but among Members from coastal areas, as well. The gentleman from Michigan (Chairman EHLERS) has already outlined the provisions of this bill, so I just want to take a few minutes to talk about the need for this legislation.

Flooding affects, of course, every part of the country; and although we have improved our flood forecasting capabilities, we still lack an effective means of transmitting to the public the nature and severity of a flood.

Mr. Chairman, one day this country will capture and hold the devastating flood waters to fight future droughts in additional lakes, above-ground giant containers, and some underwater storage. Water and fire, fearful enemies, could become wonderful friends for the future to allow these devastating floods to fight the droughts.

One of the least-understood flood patterns is related to tropical storms. For