

efforts and tie up more money and personnel in enforcing the travel ban against Cuba—as the president proposed two weeks ago—is an incredible waste of resources.

This legislation is likely headed to conference committee, where GOP leaders must make sure the Cuba language doesn't mysteriously disappear. Congress ought to make clear its resolve to end the pointless flogging of Cuba. The embargo only intensifies the misery of the long-suffering Cubans while shortchanging U.S. economic and political interests. That makes no sense at all.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS. LILLIAN S. ROBINSON

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute and congratulate Mrs. Lillian S. Robinson of Mt. Sterling, KY on her selection as a 2003 Experience Works Time Award honoree.

Mrs. Robinson was nominated for this award for her dedication to the education of the children of Kentucky. A youthful 83, she serves as the assistant director of the Community Education Program in Montgomery County, where she organizes volunteer programs including Pee Wee Basketball, the Cookie Candy Club and Parent-Child Tea.

The citizens of Kentucky are fortunate to have the leadership of Mrs. Robinson. Her example of dedication, hard work and compassion should be an inspiration to all throughout the Commonwealth.

Congratulations, Mrs. Robinson for receiving the 2003 Outstanding Older Workers award. You have my most sincere appreciation for your work and I look forward to your continued service to your of our Commonwealth.●

##### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FRENCHBURG JOB CORPS

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute and congratulate the members of the Frenchburg Job Corps of Mariba, KY on their "Make A Difference Day" program.

The Frenchburg Jobs Corps conducted a wide-ranging program of community service in Northern Kentucky. From cleaning parks to building handicap accessible ramps to visiting the elderly, these Kentuckians truly made a difference on October 24, 2003.

The citizens of Kentucky are fortunate to have the leadership of the Frenchburg Job Corps. Their example of dedication, hard work, and compassion should be an inspiration to all throughout the Commonwealth.

They have my most sincere appreciation for this work, and I look forward to their continued service to Kentucky.●

##### CARL AND FLORENCE CONTER'S 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Carl and Florence

Conter, lifelong residents of Wisconsin, on their 60th wedding anniversary. The country dance they met at began their life together blessed with family and friends to celebrate these years.

The couple was married at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Mishicot on November 6, 1943. Florence joined Carl on his family homestead in Two Creeks where he was born and lived for 85 years. It remained an active dairy farm until the late 1960s. Recently they have moved to Mishicot.

Today, many years after that first country dance at which they met, their story continues. Their children have grown up to be successful adults themselves, providing Carl and Florence with three grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Family life and faith has been a rewarding and sustaining part of their long relationship. Carl supports Florence in her advocacy of senior citizen issues. They both enjoy playing sheephead and belong to several card clubs.

I join their many friends and their family in celebration as we honor Carl and Florence Conter on their 60th wedding anniversary. They are the very best Wisconsin has to offer, and I wish them continued joy and happiness.●

##### JAMES "JACK" MEEHAN: IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise to share with my colleagues the memory of a remarkable man, James "Jack" Meehan of Santa Cruz, CA, who died on Saturday, October 25, 2003. Throughout his life he compiled an extraordinary record of devotion to his family, his community and our Nation. Jack was an 84-year-old longtime Santa Cruz resident, former Santa Cruz City Planning Commissioner and Santa Cruz Port District Commissioner, pilot, space industry pioneer, community volunteer and beloved husband, father and grandfather.

Jack was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. He married Brenda McGourty in 1942 and she remained his devoted partner for 57 years until her death in 1999. Jack and Brenda had three children: daughter Diana and sons Terry and Tom.

He served as an Army air corps pilot in Europe during World War II. After his plane was shot down, Jack's bravery helped him successfully evade capture. We will always be grateful for Jack's heroic service defending our Nation, our freedoms and our way of life.

During the 1950s, Jack put his aviation skills to use as a Viking rocket designer and tester in New Mexico. He was a pioneer in this field because the Viking rocket was a precursor to the Vanguard rocket which launched America's first satellite.

In 1959, Jack and his family settled in beautiful Santa Cruz. Jack tested satellites at Lockheed Martin in nearby Sunnyvale. He continued to pilot small planes until he gave that up in 1977. But of course, Jack's irrepressible spir-

it kept him very active, and he began boating in the Monterey Bay. Like everything Jack did, he gave boating his all and joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary, assisting in sea rescues. He also taught weather forecasting and radio communications.

In 1981, he was appointed to the Santa Cruz Port Commission, a position to which he was twice re-elected over the next 17 years. He also served as a Santa Cruz City Planning Commissioner.

After Jack retired, he was a devoted volunteer for the Santa Cruz County Red Cross. He built HAM radio systems, travelled and practiced his French language skills. Recalls his son Tom, "Sports cars, TV's, HAM radios and computers were all puzzles to be unwrapped with his tools and insight."

His daughter Diana commented, "I most admire that he was brave and loving. He was romantic, tender and funny with my mother. He was a caring father." Throughout his life, Jack was constantly helping anyone in need. As one friend and neighbor explained of Jack and Brenda, "they always served the community."

Jack had a wonderful sense of humor. Even when he was sick and in the hospital, his caregivers would leave the room smiling because of his joking. "He had a quick wit that was kind, playful and relentless. He had a distinctive Jack Meehan laugh and you could find him in airports and crowded restaurants by that laugh," remembered son Terry. Added son Tom, "Whenever asked about his favorite time of life, he would always respond 'right now, and in the future.'"

James "Jack" Meehan is survived by his daughter Diana, sons Terry and Tom and six grandchildren. He was an exceptional man.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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 appropriate committees.

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

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:29 p.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 bill and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1720. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out construction projects for the purpose of improving, renovating, establishing, and updating

patient care facilities at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers, to provide by law for the establishment and functions of the Office of Research Oversight in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 75. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1516. An act to provide for the establishment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of additional cemeteries in the National Cemetery Administration; and

H.J. Res. 52. Joint resolution recognizing the Dr. Samuel D. Harris National Museum of Dentistry, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in Baltimore, Maryland, as the official national museum of dentistry in the United States.

The enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, were signed on today by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 5:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3365. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the death gratuity payable with respect to deceased members of the Armed Forces and to exclude such gratuity from gross income.

#### ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 7:19 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker of the House has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 75. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes.

The enrolled joint resolution, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, was signed on today by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 7:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2115) to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize programs for the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

At 8:53 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the

two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2691) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, October 30, 2003, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 470. An act to extend the authority for the construction of a memorial to Martin Luther King, Jr.

S. 926. An act to amend section 5379 of title 5, United States Code, to increase the annual and aggregate limits on student loan repayments by Federal agencies.

The enrolled bills previously signed by the Speaker of the House, were signed on today, by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 1663. A bill to replace certain Coastal Barrier Resources System maps (Rept. No. 108-179).

H.R. 274. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the property in Cecil County, Maryland, known as Garrett Island for inclusion in the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (Rept. No. 108-180).

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 1395. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Technology Administration of the Department of Commerce for fiscal years 2004 through 2005 (Rept. No. 108-181).

S. 1402. A bill to authorize appropriations for activities under the Federal railroad safety laws for fiscal years 2004 through 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-182).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1720. A bill to provide for Federal court proceedings in Plano, Texas.

By Mr. HAGEL, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title and with an amended preamble:

S. Con. Res. 58. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress with respect to raising awareness and encouraging prevention of stalking in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of National Stalking Awareness Month.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

The following executive reports of committees were submitted on October 29, 2003:

By MR. GREGG, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

\*Robert Lerner, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Education Statistics for a term expiring June 21, 2009.

\*Naomi Churchill Earp, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Oppor-

tunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2005.

\*Leslie Silverman, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2008.

\*Stuart Ishimaru, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2007.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WARNER for the Committee on Armed Services.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Victor E. Renuart, Jr.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Richard V. Reynolds.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Charles L. Johnson II.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Garry R. Trexler.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Joseph L. Yakovac, Jr.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. David W. Barno.

Marine Corps nominations beginning Brig. Gen. Tony L. Corwin and ending Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Moore, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2003.

Marine Corps nominations beginning Col. John R. Allen and ending Col. Thomas D. Waldhauser, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2003.

Marine Corps nomination of Col. James L. Williams.

Navy nominations beginning Rear Adm. (lh) Michael K. Loose and ending Rear Adm. (lh) Robert L. Phillips, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 19, 2003.

Navy nomination of Read Adm. (lh) Robert Ryland Percy III.

Navy nomination of Capt. Henry B. Tomlin III.

Navy nomination of Capt. Gary A. Engle.

Navy nomination of Capt. Mark A. Hugel.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, 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.

Air Force nominations beginning Martin Alexis and ending Jerome E. Wizda, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 25, 2003.

Air Force nomination of Michael A. Mansueto.

Air Force nomination of Ronald C. Danielson.

Air Force nomination of Jefferson L. Severson.