

the President shall, notwithstanding paragraph (1) of section 6(b) of the Sudan Peace Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note), implement the measures set forth in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (2) of such section.

(b) **BLOCKING OF ASSETS.**—Beginning on the date that is 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall, consistent with the authorities granted in the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), block the assets of appropriate senior officials of the Government of Sudan.

(c) **WAIVER.**—The President may waive the application of subsection (a) or (b) if the President determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that such a waiver is in the national interest of the United States.

(d) **CONTINUATION OF RESTRICTIONS.**—Restrictions against the Government of Sudan that were imposed pursuant to title III and sections 508, 512, and 527 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Act, 2004 (division D of Public Law 108-199; 118 Stat. 143), or any other similar provision of law, shall remain in effect against the Government of Sudan and may not be lifted pursuant to such provisions of law unless the President transmits a certification to the appropriate congressional committees in accordance with paragraph (2) of section 12(a) of the Sudan Peace Act (as added by section 5(a)(1) of this Act).

(e) **DETERMINATION.**—Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the President shall continue to transmit the determination required under section 6(b)(1)(A) of the Sudan Peace Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

SEC. 7. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President is authorized to provide assistance, other than military assistance, to areas that were outside of the control of the Government of Sudan on April 8, 2004, including to provide assistance for emergency relief, development and governance, or to implement any program in support of any viable peace agreement at the local, regional, or national level in Sudan.

SEC. 8. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Section 12 of the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288f-2) is amended by striking "Organization of African Unity" and inserting "African Union".

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate concur in the House amendment, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

COMMEMORATING THE TRICENTENARY OF THE BIRTH OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3204, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3204) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the tercentenary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or de-

bate, and that any statements related to this bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 3204) was read the third time and passed.

TO HONOR AND THANK ROBERT RAY HOWE

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 484, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 484) to honor and thank Robert Ray Howe.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 484) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 484

Whereas Assistant Chief Robert Ray Howe, a native of the State of Wyoming, was appointed as a United States Capitol Police Private on March 4, 1971;

Whereas Assistant Chief Howe, throughout his career, has distinguished himself through countless commendations and recognition for professionalism and extraordinary service for the United States Capitol Police;

Whereas Assistant Chief Howe, through extraordinary efforts and dedication during his outstanding career of over thirty (30) years, rose from the rank of private to the position of Assistant Chief of Police, the second in command of the United States Capitol Police;

Resolved, That the Senate hereby honors and thanks Robert Ray Howe and his family for a lifelong professional commitment of service to the United States Capitol Police and the United States Congress.

TREATING CERTAIN ARRANGEMENTS MAINTAINED BY THE YMCA RETIREMENT FUND AS CHURCH PLANS FOR THE PURPOSES OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5365, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5365) to treat certain arrangements maintained by the YMCA Retirement Fund as church plans for the purposes of certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I support H.R. 5365, a bill designed to ensure

that the thousands of pension plan participants and retirees for the YMCA continue to be able to count on their benefits, ensuring the pension plan may continue to operate as it has for over 80 years. The Senate passed my bill, S. 2589, by unanimous consent on July 14 of this year, and I am pleased that the House has recently passed H.R. 5365, which closely follows the direction of the Senate legislation. I worked together with fellow Senators, including Senator GRAHAM of Florida, to move this process toward today's hopeful conclusion. I want to stress that this effort has been a very bipartisan effort, in both the House and Senate, to produce a consensus solution and legislation.

I also thank Finance Committee Chairman GRASSLEY and Ranking Member BAUCUS for their assistance in bringing this bill to the floor today.

This is a bill about protecting the retirement security for thousands of YMCA employees and retirees. I have heard from Kentucky YMCA leaders and employees—leaders such as R. Stephen Tarver of YMCA of Greater Louisville, Dean Ehrenheim of the Owensboro YMCA, and Kenneth Barnes, who runs the Chestnut Street YMCA in Louisville, and countless YMCA employees—about the importance of protecting retirement security. This legislation addresses a concern about the technical status of the YMCA pension plan as a church plan, a type of pension plan offered by churches or associations of churches. This legislation will ensure that the YMCA pension plan will be able to provide a secure retirement to the more than 80,000 plan participants.

I also thank the Treasury Department and IRS for their patience while the Congress worked through finding a solution to ensure the YMCA pension plan could continue to offer the benefits to its participants and retirees.

As I have stated, the YMCA pension plan is a very significant part of each YMCA employee's compensation package, most of whom are modestly paid. I have heard from many of the Kentucky YMCAs, and their employees, about the importance of this pension plan to their future. In Kentucky alone, there are 19 YMCAs with over 485,000 members, and 918 pension plan participants, retirees or past employees who have vested benefits. Today's legislation is vitally important to the each and every plan participant in Kentucky and their families, and more than 80,000 participants and retirees in the YMCA pension plan, offering them financial and retirement security for their long service on behalf of our Nation's YMCA.

In closing, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I am pleased that we are moving forward with this legislation today and look forward to its enactment soon.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the

table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 5365) was read the third time and passed.

PEARL HARBOR DAY

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, where were you on December 7, 1941? There are some of us who can remember that day. I was around 6 or 7 years old. I remember being on that small farm where I was raised. We were doing the evening chores when my mother—we did not have electricity in those days so you had a battery-operated radio and you did not turn on the radio until the evening. But mom had turned on the radio and the newscast was that Japan had attacked the United States at Pearl Harbor. When she told dad about that—I remember dad had two feed buckets in his hands—he said: “Where in the world is Pearl Harbor?” We did not even know where it was.

At 6 o'clock in the morning, Pearl Harbor time, 183 Japanese aircraft were launched from six major fleet carriers and flew toward Oahu. At 7:02 a.m. Honolulu time, the Japanese aircraft were spotted on their approach to Oahu, and they were mistaken for a flight of B-17 Flying Fortresses on an approach to the islands. At 7:15 a.m., a second wave of 167 Japanese planes departed the fleet carriers for Pearl Harbor. At 7:55 a.m., the attack on Pearl Harbor began, with the first Japanese dive-bomber appearing over Pearl Harbor. It was followed by a first wave of nearly 200 aircraft, including torpedo planes, bombers, and fighters.

The ships in our fleet were sitting ducks, all gathered up in one place. The anchored ships in the harbor made perfect targets for those bombers, and since it was Sunday morning—a time chosen by the Japanese for maximum surprise—they were not fully manned. In fact, back in those days in the Navy, half of the crew on the ships was on liberty.

Most of the damage to the battleships was inflicted in the first 30 minutes of the assault. The *Arizona*, which still lies in state, so to speak, at that harbor, sank. The *Oklahoma* was capsized. The *California*, *Nevada*, and *West Virginia* sank in shallow water. In all, more than 180 aircraft were destroyed. U.S. military casualties totaled about 3,400.

That was a fateful day in 1941. Tied up to the *Arizona* was a ship, the USS *Vestal*. A good friend of mine, a member of our church, and his two brothers were on that ship. It was a repair ship. They were working on the *Arizona*. He said he remembers that day like it was yesterday. Glenn Sahlgren is gone now. I spent many hours on the Big Horn River fishing with him. I told him: When they find our bones one of these days, they will be down here on this river with a fly pole in our hand. He said: CONRAD, every day since Decem-

ber 8, 1941, has been a bonus to me. He and his two brothers were raised in Saco, MT. All three of them were in the Navy and on that ship, and it too sank. All three survived that fateful morning.

They were young Americans, hit by surprise. Now we are talking about another intelligence bill on the heels of 9/11. There were 3,581 killed, missing, and wounded. In my State alone, on the USS *Arizona*, Montana lost seven of its finest: Lloyd Daniel, Jerald Dillum, Joseph Marling, Earl Morrison, Robert Pearson, Harold Scilley, and George Smart.

Of course, that attack launched America into World War II where it suffered even more losses. Thousands of men and women died in World War II, but it changed the face of the world and gave us the freedoms we enjoy today. None of us here earned those; we inherited them. What Tom Brokaw called “the greatest generation” is a true statement. For after that attack, this country bound up its wounds and didn't look back. We honored those who were lost, and we built a better peace.

As this holiday season approaches and we gather around friends and family, it is important that we count our blessings. Most of those blessings were inherited and not earned. We remember those who went before us. We turn to this holiday and think about those families who are missing someone either because a family member died for their country or he or she is standing tall on foreign soil around the world.

One characteristic about Americans, we have always thought about the next generation. Those who answered the call in 1941 knew full well it was worth the sacrifice so that their families, their children and grandchildren, would never be vulnerable to anything like that again. We are witnessing today's greatest generation also. They understand the risk and the mission, but they also understand their families and what this great country stands for—we tend to forget that every now and again—because they, too, think it is worth the sacrifice so their children and grandchildren will not live under the pall of terrorism, perpetrated on the world from the shadows by faceless people. Today we have brave military men and women again, just as those who have gone before them, standing on alert, securing our freedoms, guarding the innocent abroad. I salute their bravery and their sacrifice, and I ask my colleagues to do the same.

This December 7 is a reminder of where we have been, how we reacted, what we have done, and the challenges to be faced in the future by young folks who are willing to pay the price.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNETT). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO LES BROWNLEE

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I wish to take a few minutes to speak about a truly remarkable American who, after serving his country with remarkable competence and quiet excellence, has moved on with little fanfare.

I am talking about Les Brownlee, a man we worked with very closely for a long period of time. So often you learn to love these people when you work with them over the years, and then they move on and you prepare to miss them, as we will.

Les Brownlee would probably not want me to talk about him. He normally avoids that type of thing. He shunned public recognition for his achievements, while compiling a stellar record of support and leadership for the men and women of the U.S. Army.

Mr. Brownlee was a highly decorated Vietnam veteran and executive officer to Army Under Secretary James Ambrose when he retired as a colonel in the U.S. Army in 1984. The experience he gained during his time in uniform made him an attractive candidate to advise my colleague from Virginia, Senator WARNER.

Mr. Brownlee served on Senator WARNER's staff for several years before joining the Senate Armed Services Committee as a professional staff member, where I worked with him for 7 years. From 1994, when I first came from the House to the Senate, until 2001, when he accepted a job as Under Secretary of the Army, Mr. Brownlee proved his expertise again and again while deflecting the accolades he deserved.

It is hard to conceive of a more tumultuous time for an acting Secretary of the Army to hold that position. From the events of 9/11, which helped convince Mr. Brownlee to take the Under Secretary position, to the campaigns of Afghanistan and Iraq, to the myriad challenges faced by the Army today, these times are like no other. In the face of these daunting events, Mr. Brownlee provided incredibly strong leadership from the top without losing touch with the personal integrity that characterizes the finest members of the Army he oversaw. Moreover, while executing the high-level concerns of his office, he also worked to ensure that the pressing needs of individual soldiers were met. He reflected on the old days, and he knew he had the instinct as to what those needs were. I am thinking particularly of the need for more and better body armor for our troops.

My only disappointment now is that Mr. Brownlee is moving on. It is clear his successors will have big shoes to fill, and the trajectory that Mr. Brownlee set for the service and coordination with the Secretary of Defense