

Civil Military Operations Center in Ramadi. On election day in January in Iraq, Corporal Cahir and the 4th CAG were responsible for protecting a polling site in Ramadi.

Having returned from his deployment to Iraq, Corporal Cahir has since returned to his civilian job. As a journalist, Bill Cahir covers a multitude of stories but has since focused many of those stories on his own personal experiences in Iraq and the experiences of other service members.

In one article he wrote for *The Express-Times*, a newspaper from Easton, PA, Mr. Cahir told the story of two service members—COL James T. Anthony, a marine reservist from Nazareth, PA, and LTC Stanley B. Smith, Jr., an Army officer with the Army's 98th Division, Institutional Training. Both service members were on their way to Camp Taji in Baghdad to begin their deployments to Iraq.

In his article, Bill Cahir documented the sentiments of these two service members during their deployments. Colonel Anthony had recounted his observations of the training of Iraqi soldiers, "U.S. Marines, soldiers and sailors, along with their commanders, 'did a fantastic job really pushing the ball forward when it comes to training Iraqi security forces, not just in terms of numbers but in terms of efficiency and effectiveness.'"

Lieutenant Colonel Smith also recounted his experiences in Iraq when he said, "I am able to feel a sense of pride in accomplishment here in seeing real results in the form of construction that has been completed as planned and Iraqi units operating with installations that contribute to mission readiness."

Mr. President, these stories from our soldiers are just a few more examples of the success in Iraq that our troops are contributing to. Each and every one of our service members has contributed to the promotion of democracy, the security, and the rebuilding of Iraq.

I applaud the marines of the 4th Civil Affairs Group and all of the service members who are serving or who have served our Nation in Iraq. The bravery that they have displayed and the progress they have made in Iraq is remarkable, and it needs to be told.●

AIMEE'S LAW

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, H.R. 3402, the Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act, includes "technical changes" to legislation known as "Aimee's Law." I am dismayed that the Department of Justice has waited until now to take the adequate steps to implement this legislation. I sponsored this legislation in the Senate, which was signed into law by President Clinton in October 2000. The law was to be implemented in 2002. I believe that 3 years is more than adequate time to implement this critical protection for my constituents.

Aimee's Law is named after Aimee Willard, a college senior from suburban Philadelphia who was brutally raped and murdered by a convicted murderer who was released early in Nevada and crossed State lines to kill again in Pennsylvania. Aimee's mother, Gail, became a tireless advocate to prevent such unnecessary tragedies from happening to other families, culminating in the passage of Aimee's Law in the U.S. Senate by an 81-to-17 margin and its final inclusion in H.R. 3244, the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act conference report, which also included the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization, Pub. L. 106-386. Aimee's Law is narrowly tailored to address the heinous crimes of murder, rape, and child molestation.

The law is designed to protect the residents of one State from the negligence of another State. The law assists States which recognize that the primary responsibility of State and local governments is to maintain public safety. Sexual predators have the highest rate of recidivism of any category of violent crime. The law simply provides that States where a subsequent similar violent crime occurs because of an early release will be reimbursed for the prosecution and incarceration costs through a reduction of future Federal funds from the allocation of the State where the original violent crime and conviction occurred.

I wish to state for the record that I will not object to the "technical changes" of Aimee's Law in H.R. 3402 as the Department of Justice assures me that the law will be implemented within six months. While I think that it is unacceptable that it has taken this long to take the appropriate steps to implement this law, I am hopeful that Aimee's Law will finally and effectively be implemented in the very near future so other families do not suffer the same fate as the Williards.●

TRIBUTE TO DICK FORD

● Mr. TALENT. Mr. Present, today I rise to honor the accomplishments of Dick Ford, one of the most respected broadcast journalists in the St. Louis area. After more than 50 years of media service around the country, Mr. Ford will be retiring today, December 15, 2005. He will be greatly missed by viewers in the St. Louis area and in the field of journalism as a whole.

After receiving a bachelor of science degree in political science from the University of Pittsburgh and serving on active duty aboard an aircraft carrier in the Mediterranean, Dick began his professional career in 1951 and went on to work in a number of States as a reporter, news director, and anchor.

After having established himself as a prominent journalist, Mr. Ford came to the St. Louis area where he began working at KSDK-TV. In July 1992, he joined KTVI Fox 2, from which he will retire.

In his distinguished career, Mr. Ford has been honored with the prestigious

Emmy Award, among other recognitions of his journalistic talent and integrity.

The many hallmarks of his career include a training mission in an F-4 Phantom jet, live reports from Rome when Sister Philippine Duchesne was canonized, reports on a nuclear submarine and from the flight deck of an aircraft carrier and travels to Saudi Arabia to report on Desert Storm.

In addition to his passion for journalism, Dick Ford is a committed father and husband. He is also passionate about the community of St. Louis. Mr. Ford currently works with the USO and the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, among other St. Louis area organizations.

In his work, both as a journalist and a community leader, Dick has won the respect of his colleagues and viewers alike. I have appreciated very much Dick's dedication and professionalism. He sought more than just the story—he wanted to get the story right. In his interviews with me, he never hesitated to ask the tough questions, but he was always fair about it.

Dick, congratulations on your many contributions to the great State of Missouri and your tremendously successful career.●

TRIBUTE TO TERRY R. LITTLE

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to recognize the service of an outstanding leader and public servant. After more than 38 years of combined military and civil service, Mr. Terry R. Little will soon retire from the Department of Defense, DOD, and move into private life.

Mr. Little is one of the most seasoned weapons acquisition program managers in the DOD. He has over 24 years of program management leadership in seven major weapon acquisition programs including two highly classified missile programs, the AIM-9X Short Range Air-to-Air Missile, the Joint Direct Attack Munition, the Small Diameter Bomb, the Joint Air-to-Surface Stand-off Missile, and the Kinetic Energy Interceptor Program. Each of these weapon systems has delivered, or promises to provide, unparalleled advancements in capability at affordable costs for the defense of our Nation. His creative ingenuity, tenacious organizational drive, and superior personal leadership directly enabled these advancements.

Mr. Little is currently the Executive Director of the Missile Defense Agency, MDA. In this capacity, he is responsible for acquisition, personnel, and administrative policy. His intellectual commitment for excellence and genuine concern for people have aided immeasurably to the day-to-day operation of the Agency. His professional achievements are numerous, impressive, and reflect his dedication and commitment for achieving the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in the service of the United States.

Terry Little has devoted his adult life to improving the DOD acquisition process. He has inspired teamwork and efficiency in many venues, and he has trained the next generation of acquisition managers to continue his legacy. For these and his many other contributions, Americans owe Mr. Little a debt of gratitude for a lifetime of selfless service and for his profound contributions to our Nation and our security. Those of us in the Senate will miss his leadership and contributions. We wish him and his family all the best in the years ahead.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, 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 Committee on the Judiciary.

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

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE EXPORT OF ACCELEROMETERS TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS—PM 33

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the provisions of section 1512 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105-261), I hereby certify that the export of 36 accelerometers to the People's Republic of China's Ministry of Railways, for use in a railroad track geometry measuring system, is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry, and that the material and equipment, including any indirect technical benefit that could be derived from such export, will not measurably improve the missile or space launch capabilities of the People's Republic of China.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 14, 2005.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2863) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006,

and for other purposes, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House: Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WICKER, Mr. KINGSTON, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. WALSH, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. DICKS, Mr. SABO, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. OBEY.

At 11:46 a.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 bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 972. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2892. An act to amend section 255 of the National Housing Act to remove the limitation on the number of reverse mortgages that may be insured under the FHA mortgage insurance program for such mortgages.

H.R. 3508. An act to authorize improvements in the operation of the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4436. An act to provide certain authorities for the Department of State, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4473. An act to reauthorize and amend the Commodity Exchange Act to promote legal certainty, enhance competition, and reduce systemic risk in markets for futures and over-the-counter derivatives, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4508. An act to commend the outstanding efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina by members and employees of the Coast Guard, to provide temporary relief to certain persons affected by such hurricane with respect to certain laws administered by the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 38. Joint resolution recognizing Commodore John Barry as the first flag officer of the United States Navy.

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

S. 335. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 238. Concurrent resolution honoring the victims of the Cambodian genocide that took place from April 1975 to January 1979.

H. Con. Res. 252. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the United States should support democracy, the rule of law, and human rights in the Republic of Nicaragua and work cooperatively with regional and international organizations to bolster Nicaraguan efforts to establish the requisite conditions for free, fair, transparent, and inclusive presidential and legislative elections in 2006.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 4:47 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 335. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

H.R. 327. An act to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting land within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation.

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

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 2892. An act to amend section 255 of the National Housing Act to remove the limitation on the number of reverse mortgages that may be insured under the FHA mortgage insurance program for such mortgages.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 15, 2005, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 1047. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of each of the Nation's past Presidents and their spouses, respectively, to improve circulation of the \$1 coin, to create a new bullion coin, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4833. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 and Enactment of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005" received on December 2, 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4834. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 and Enactment of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005" received on December 12, 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4835. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend Act of August 21, 1935 to extend the authorization for the National Park System Advisory Board and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4836. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 and Enactment of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4837. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Management, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of