

Sam and I worked closely with experts and friends like Bill Potter. Together we understood that a unilateral effort would not succeed and challenged the United States and our former enemies to work together. The United States needed a diplomatic strategy and a programmatic response to the threat. The Nunn-Lugar program was our answer. The program succeeded in convincing Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan to remove all nuclear weapons from their territories. In addition, it became the primary tool through which the United States continues to work with Russia to destroy its massive nuclear, chemical, and biological warfare capacity.

I could relate many stories and experiences I have enjoyed with Bill Potter. His patient diplomacy and leadership have made important contributions to U.S. national security and international peace. The education, policy information, and policy expertise he will provide through his new position to the students at the Monterey Institute will continue the grand tradition he has established there and ensure that his talents and dedication are continued in a fine academic tradition.

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction was and remains the No. 1 national security threat facing the United States and the international community. We still have a lot of work to do to address the threats posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. I congratulate the university and Dr. Potter on this important announcement and look forward to continuing my close relationship with Bill and his colleagues at Monterey as we work together to address the threat posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. ●

CONGRATULATING PENOBSCOT BAY PORCH SWINGS

● Ms. SNOWE. Madam President, today I congratulate Penobscot Bay Porch Swings of Brunswick, a woman-owned company dedicated to reviving the tradition of porch swings in my home State of Maine.

Inspired by the old-fashioned hammock swings she saw along the Maine coast while on a field trip with her daughter, Sarah Bloy began creating the prototype for what would become the widely popular Penobscot Bay Porch Swing. After 4 years of planning and a trip to the Marine Canvas Training Institute, Ms. Bloy commenced production of her porch swings in January 2005. Each swing, which takes between 8 and 10 hours to make, is delicately produced in a studio workshop at Brunswick's Fort Andross by Ms. Bloy with the assistance of her dedicated employee.

Penobscot Bay Porch Swings is a successful small business due to Ms. Bloy's entrepreneurial and innovative spirit. Her company's hand-made porch swings are similar to those fashionable at the turn of the 20th century in

Maine and New England, illiciting nostalgia for some and amazement for many others. Penobscot Bay Porch Swings offers an assortment of styles that were named to celebrate Maine's coastal heritage. The Bar Harbor, Kennebunkport, and Camden are some of the swing styles available. Moreover, the swings' vibrant colors provide a contemporary look to a time-tested design. Choosing between colors, such as Capri blue and Tuscan orange, Jockey red and Seville Seaside stripes, customers have many bright and welcoming options for the color of their swing. And each hammock swing is carefully crafted with mildew resistant Sunbrella fabric to temper the tough elements of New England's climate.

Ms. Bloy has also created the inventive Castine Cradle, a swing-like crib especially designed for babies and infants. Along with the swings and cradles, Ms. Bloy also constructs a plethora of brilliant pillows to coordinate with her swings, in even more creative colors like Beachfront Balsam and Sandrine Sunset. Her sights are set on expanding her business, with the hopes of designing new and more creative products for her clientele to enjoy for seasons to come.

Porch swings and hammocks have long been a staple of east coast life, and Ms. Bloy's expertly crafted swings will help to revitalize interest in this outstanding tradition. Penobscot Bay Porch exemplifies what a small business can accomplish with a pioneering and talented Mainer, such as Sarah Bloy, at the helm. Penobscot Bay Porch Swings has built a reputation of meticulous craftsmanship and durability, and I wish Sarah and everyone at Penobscot Bay Porch Swings the best of luck as they continue to thrive and expand. ●

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL WESLEY L. McDONALD

● Mr. WARNER. Madam President, today I pay tribute to ADM Wesley L. McDonald, U.S. Navy, Retired, a great American naval officer who served his country in uniform for over 35 years, culminating with his simultaneous assignments as Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic and Commander-in-Chief U.S. Atlantic Command.

Following his illustrious naval career, Admiral McDonald has gone on to promote both education and aviation, giving wise counsel to American industry and valued service on several key boards including the U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation, the U.S. Naval Aviation Museum and the Armed Services YMCA. This year he has been honored with the "Elder Statesman of Aviation" Award by the National Aeronautic Association for 15 years of exceptional service to this fine organization.

On 1 December 1985, ADM Wesley L. McDonald retired from his assignment as the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, and the Commander-in-Chief of

the U.S. Atlantic Command, after having served in the U.S. Navy for over 42 years. He is a former carrier naval aviator who served in various staff and command positions following his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1946. He also holds a M.S. degree from the George Washington University.

Before entering flight training in 1948, Admiral McDonald was a member of Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd's South Pole expedition "High Jump." He received his wings in 1950 and served in several carrier fighter and attack squadrons. He participated as a flight leader in the first retaliatory strike into North Vietnam following the Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964, while serving as the commanding officer of Attack Squadron Fifty-Six. Other command tours included Carrier Air Wing Fifteen, amphibious landing ship dock USS *Hermitage*, LSD-34, and the aircraft carrier USS *Coral Sea*, CV-43.

After promotion to rear admiral in 1972, he was assigned duty as the Commandant, Thirteenth Naval District. This tour was followed by assignment as Commander Carrier Group Three, where Admiral McDonald deployed to the Western Pacific as a Carrier Battle Group Commander in the final stages of the Vietnam war. He continued duty in the Pacific as the commander, Naval Air Force Pacific representative embarked in USS *Midway*, CV-41, homeported in Yokosuka, Japan, in 1974. He then served as the Chief of Naval Air Training in Corpus Christi, TX, for 1 year before being reassigned to Washington, DC, in 1975 as the Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel.

In July 1977, he was promoted to vice admiral and assumed command of the U.S. Second Fleet. Concurrently, Admiral McDonald commanded the NATO Striking Fleet Atlantic. Following this tour, Admiral McDonald was named Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Air Warfare, where he established policy for the conduct of Naval Air Warfare and served as an advisor to the Chief of Naval Operations for all matters involving Naval Aviation.

He was promoted to the rank of admiral and assumed the duties of Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, Commander-in-Chief U.S. Atlantic Command, and Commander-in-Chief U.S. Atlantic Fleet in September 1982. During this tour of duty, Admiral McDonald and his staff planned the U.S. intervention in Grenada in October 1983, and was the commander in charge of the successful execution of the operation.

Admiral McDonald's awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, three Navy Distinguished Service Medals, two Legions of Merit, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, five Air Medals, and awards from the Netherlands, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Iceland, Norway, Uruguay, Chile and Brazil.

Throughout his career in the U.S. Navy and the private sector, Admiral McDonald has provided exemplary

leadership and sound professional judgment on issues of importance to the Navy and our country. He is an extraordinary individual and leader whose record of service exemplifies the highest traditions of our military and our country.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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 12:28 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees 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. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 12:48 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 bill and joint resolution:

S. 2206. An act to provide technical corrections to Public Law 109-116 (2 U.S.C. 2131 a note) to extend the time period for the Joint Committee on the Library to enter into an agreement to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 7. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Sant as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The enrolled bill and joint resolution were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

At 5:14 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House, having proceeded to reconsider the bill (H.R. 1495) to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes, returned by the President of the United States with his objections, to

the House of Representatives, in which it originated, it was resolved that the said bill pass, two-thirds of the House of Representatives agreeing to pass the same.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2318. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the individual alternative minimum tax and to permanently extend the reductions in income tax rates, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, November 7, 2007, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill and joint resolution:

S. 2206. An act to provide technical corrections to Public Law 109-116 (2 U.S.C. 2131a note) to extend the time period for the Joint Committee on the Library to enter into an agreement to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 7. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Sant as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

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-3836. A communication from the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Materiel Readiness, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's Program for Planning, Managing, and Accounting for Civilian Contractor Services and Contractor Personnel during Contingency Operations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3837. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3838. A communication from the Chairman, Examination Council, Federal Financial Institutions, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a review of their regulations for purposes of identifying outdated or otherwise unnecessary regulatory requirements imposed on insured depository institutions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3839. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Approval of 8-Hour Ozone Section 110(a)(1) Maintenance Plans for the Parishes of Beauregard, Grant, and St. Mary" (FRL No. 8491-4) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3840. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting,

pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oxytetracycline; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL No. 8153-7) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3841. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Imperial County and Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control Districts" (FRL No. 8492-3) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3842. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Kern County Air Pollution Control District" (FRL No. 8489-7) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3843. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standards of Performance for Equipment Leaks of VOC in the Synthetic Organic Chemicals Manufacturing Industry; Standards of Performance for Equipment Leaks of VOC in Petroleum Refineries" ((RIN)2060-AN71)(FRL No. 8492-4) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3844. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Update of Continuous Instrumental Test Methods: Technical Amendments" ((RIN)2060-AO09)(FRL No. 8490-9) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3845. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Railroad Industry Overview" (Docket No. LMSB-04-1007-072) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3846. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: Changes to the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System and CY 2008 Payment Rates, the Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment System and CY 2008 Payment Rates, the Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System and FY 2008 Payment Rates; and Payments for Graduate Medical Education for Affiliated Teaching Hospitals in Certain Emergency Situations" ((RIN)0938-AO71) (RIN0938-AO70) (RIN0938-AO35) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3847. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the certification of a proposed license for the export of technical data and defense services to the Republic of Korea for the manufacture and assembly of the X1100 Series Transmissions; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3848. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of