

I know all my colleagues join me in saluting MG Daniel V. Wright and his wife, Jan, his daughter Melissa, also an Army veteran, his daughter Katie, and his son Brian and his son Jeff, for the family's many years of truly outstanding service and support to the Judge Advocate General's Corps, the U.S. Army, and our great Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO JESSE KUHAULUA

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I would like to recognize Mr. Jesse Kuhaulua, renowned sumo wrestler and stablemaster. June 6, 2009, marks Mr. Kuhaulua's 65th birthday, and official retirement from the sport of sumo. It is with warm aloha that I congratulate Mr. Kuhaulua on these milestones.

The traditions of sumo span centuries. During the 8th century, sumo wrestling matches were integrated into the ceremonies of the Imperial Court. With the support of the Imperial Court, sumo evolved and developed rules and techniques that closely resemble the sumo of today. In the 12th century, under a military dictatorship, intense warfare ensued, and sumo was used to improve fighting skills. When peace was restored in the early 17th century, professional sumo groups were organized to entertain the rapidly expanding mercantile class, and sumo came into its own as the national sport of Japan. The present day Japan Sumo Association has its origins in these groups. An amalgamation of Shinto ritual, skill, and entertainment, sumo is more than a practice of strength and combat. Sumo epitomizes Japanese culture and its affinity for tradition.

Mr. Kuhaulua was born and raised in Hawaii on the Island of Maui, and in 1964 left the islands to pursue the sport of sumo in Japan. Over the course of nearly 45 years, as both a wrestler and stablemaster, Mr. Kuhaulua has been a pioneer and a legend. As an individual athlete, his achievements are outstanding. Mr. Kuhaulua holds almost every all-time individual sumo record of endurance or in the iron-man category. As a trail blazer, he has earned a place in sumo history that will never be forgotten, as the first foreigner to win a tournament championship, and to open a sumo stable. His coaching skills helped develop the skills of Mr. Chad Rowan, the first foreigner to achieve the rank of Yokozuna. The legacy Mr. Kuhaulua leaves the world of sumo wrestling will continue to be an inspiration for generations to come.

I applaud Mr. Kuhaulua for his hard work and perseverance that has led to his great achievements in sumo, and wish him the best in the bright years ahead.●

HONORING LIE-NIELSEN TOOLWORKS INC.

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, American entrepreneurs often make their mark by honing their skills to meet a public demand. Today I wish to recog-

nize Lie-Nielsen Toolworks Inc., a small business in my home State of Maine, that saw a need in specialty toolmaking, and moved quickly to fill it.

As a boy, Thomas Lie-Nielsen spent many hours in his father's workshop as seasoned woodworkers practiced their craft, absorbing their techniques. An English major in college, Mr. Lie-Nielsen always maintained a fondness for woodworking, and later worked for a mail order woodworking tools business. When larger manufacturers began to drop specialty tools from their lines, he moved to the small Maine town of West Rockport, where he opened his shop in 1981 to fill the specialty tool niche. In 1988, as the business grew, Mr. Lie-Nielsen moved the company to the neighboring town of Warren, where he later opened a 13,000-square-foot facility for its day-to-day operations. In 1998, Lie-Nielsen acquired the Independence Tool Company, further growing the company's size.

Starting out producing just two tools in 1981, Lie-Nielsen today manufactures almost 100 different tools, from planes to spokeshaves to special inlay tools. The company now employs more than 60 Mainers, crafting woodworking tools from a variety of native American hardwoods found mostly throughout New England. Lie-Nielsen ships its tools to customers abroad, as far away as Europe, Japan and Australia. The company also teaches the craft of woodworking through its training DVDs which feature how to get the most out of their specialty, hand-crafted Lie-Nielsen tools.

Mr. Lie-Nielsen remains personally committed to the success of his business, particularly through increased production and the development of new and sturdy products. He is particularly responsive to comments and suggestions from his company's customers in designing new tools they would like Lie-Nielsen to make. Additionally, Mr. Lie-Nielsen frequently travels throughout the United States and Canada discussing the woodworking and toolmaking trade at informational talks and presentations. He is also an accomplished author, having written "Taunton's Complete Illustrated Guide to Sharpening," as well as co-authoring "Taunton's Complete Illustrated Guide to Woodworking."

On April 17 of this year, Maine Governor John Baldacci presented Lie-Nielsen, along with five other excellent Maine companies, with the 2009 Governor's Award for Business Excellence. Lie-Nielsen was selected for the company's innovative spirit and for its strong record of community service and dedication to investing in its workforce. I extend my congratulations to Lie-Nielsen Toolworks for this outstanding recognition.

Carving out a specialty niche in the woodworking world, Lie-Nielsen has excelled as a leader in the craft of toolmaking. It is the passion, drive, and innovation of entrepreneurs like

Thomas Lie-Nielsen that will shape our economic future. I wish Mr. Lie-Nielsen, founder and CEO, and everyone at Lie-Nielsen Toolworks, Inc. a successful year.●

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 12:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Zapata, 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 House to the resolution (S. Con. Res. 13) entitled "Concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014."

At 3:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1243. An act to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Arnold Palmer in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence and good sportsmanship in golf.

H.R. 1595. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3245 Latta Road in Rochester, New York, as the "Brian K. Schramm Post Office Building".

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

H. Con. Res. 36. Concurrent resolution calling on the President and the allies of the United States to raise in all appropriate bilateral and multilateral fora the case of Robert Levinson at every opportunity, urging Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance to the family of Robert Levinson, and calling on Iran to share the results of its investigation into the disappearance of Robert Levinson with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

H. Con. Res. 104. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

The message further announced that pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2501, and the

order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

The message also announced that pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 431 note, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: Mr. MOORE of Kansas and Mr. BOSWELL of Iowa.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 5(a) of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act (36 U.S.C. 101 note), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2004(b), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation: Mr. SKELTON of Missouri.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 4404(c)(2) of the Congressional Hunger Fellows Act of 2002 (2 U.S.C. 1161), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the Congressional Hunger Fellows Program for a term of four years: Mr. JAMES P. MCGOVERN of Worcester, Massachusetts.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C., 4303, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University: Ms. WOOLSEY of California.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Mr. HINCHEY of New York and Mr. HALL of New York.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Chairman, Ms. GIFFORDS of Arizona, Vice Chairman, Ms. LINDA SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. FILNER of California, Mr. REYES of Texas, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, in ad-

dition to Mr. TANNER of Tennessee, Chairman, appointed on February 13, 2009; Mrs. TAUSCHER of California, Vice Chairman, Mr. ROSS of Arkansas, Mr. CHANDLER of Kentucky, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, and Ms. BEAN of Illinois.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2903, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Japan-United States Friendship Commission: Mr. MCDERMOTT of Washington.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1243. An act to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Arnold Palmer in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence and good sportsmanship in golf; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1595. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3245 Latta Road in Rochester, New York, as the "Brian K. Schramm Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 36. Concurrent resolution calling on the President and the allies of the United States to raise in all appropriate bilateral and multilateral fora the case of Robert Levinson at every opportunity, urging Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance to the family of Robert Levinson, and calling on Iran to share the results of its investigation into the disappearance of Robert Levinson with the Federal Bureau of Investigation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 104. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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-1477. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the TRICARE Program for fiscal year 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1478. A communication from the Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Investigation of the Spectrum Requirements for Advanced Medical Technologies" (FCC 09-23) (ET Docket No. 06-135) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 27, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1479. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Final DTV Table of Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations;

Scranton; Pennsylvania" (MB Docket No. 08-244) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 27, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1480. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Land and Minerals Management, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Renewable Energy and Alternate Uses of Existing Facilities on the Outer Continental Shelf" (RIN1010-AD30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 27, 2009; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1481. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, status reports relative to Iraq for the period of February 15, 2009, through April 15, 2009; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1482. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2009-0047-2009-0061); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1483. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 615. A bill to provide additional personnel authorities for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (Rept. No. 111-15).

By Mr. DODD, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 414. A bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act, to ban abusive credit practices, enhance consumer disclosures, protect underage consumers, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. DODD for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

*Russlynn Ali, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education.

*Carmel Martin, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, Department of Education.

*Charles P. Rose, of Illinois, to be General Counsel, Department of Education.

*Peter Cunningham, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Outreach, Department of Education.

*Brian Vincent Kennedy, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

*T. Michael Kerr, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

*Gabriella Cecilia Gomez, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education.

*Thomasina Rogers, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and