

those years were spent as a forgotten slave on the docks of Niigata. At the war's end, he returned to Fort Logan, CO, where he was discharged from the U.S. Army.

Upon his discharge in 1946, Leonard returned to school on the G.I. bill and earned his bachelor of science in architectural engineering from the University of Colorado. He then attended Northwestern Seminary in Minneapolis, where he earned his bachelor of theology. He later earned his master's and doctorate in theology from Pioneer Seminary in Rockford, IL. Throughout his years as an ordained pastor, he served in Wyoming, Washington, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Colorado before returning back to Wyoming. He has served as Chaplain for military, law enforcement and veterans groups. Leonard and his wife Erma enjoyed 53 years together and they were blessed with three children, Paula Chelewski, Len Robinson, and Pamela Robinson, as well as two grandchildren. His beloved Erma passed away in 2005. Mr. President, the life example of Rev. Leonard Robinson has taught so many to appreciate and be thankful for the blessings of life.

This week, all the eyes of Wyoming will be on Cheyenne as we kick off the annual Daddy of 'Em All, Cheyenne Frontier Days. And I am proud to announce that Wyoming will honor Leonard as he leads the Cheyenne Frontier Days Parade on Tuesday, July 21, as its grand marshal. It is but a small tribute to this brave man who sacrificed and suffered so much for our country, for you and for me.

My father was a veteran of World War II. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge. My wife Bobbi's father was in both World War II and Korea. My dad always told me that I should thank God every day that I was born in America and how fortunate I was. He was right. This is the greatest country on Earth. And it is because of the sacrifices made by men like Rev. Leonard Robinson. I was so honored to greet him and his fellow veterans on the National Mall this spring when they made the Wyoming Honor Flight trip to Washington to visit the World War II Memorial. He is a hero in every sense of the word. Leonard, thank you my friend. All of Wyoming, and indeed America, is proud of you.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMENDING CECIL HARRIS

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Cecil Harris. The following statement was read at the dedication of a highway named in his honor on May 25, 2009. I ask that the statement be printed in the RECORD.

The statement follows.

CECIL HARRIS HIGHWAY DEDICATION CEREMONY, CRESBARD, SOUTH DAKOTA, MAY 25, 2009

Thank you for the invitation to attend the recognition celebration for Captain Cecil E.

Harris to honor his achievement as a World War II fighter pilot. While I regret I am unable to be with you to recognize Captain Harris at this important event, I want to extend my greetings and best wishes to all of you in attendance. I applaud those individuals, many of whom are here today, whose hard work and dedication have made this event possible.

It is especially fitting that you are celebrating this event on Memorial Day. We should pause to remember what Memorial Day is all about: honoring those who have defended our freedom and especially those who have paid the ultimate price. Captain Harris is certainly worthy of this celebration. As an educator by profession, his willingness to serve others was apparent at a young age. He answered the call to service while enrolled at Northern State Teachers College in March 1941. Twenty-seven years later, Captain Harris retired as one of the most decorated heroes of the United States Navy. During his World War II service, he was the second highest scoring Navy ace in the Pacific Theater with 24 victories.

Captain Harris serves as a shining example of South Dakota's proud legacy of military service that extends from our state's earliest days to our current conflicts around the globe. South Dakotans of every background have always answered the call to defend America from those who seek to destroy the freedom that we cherish. I doubt there are many South Dakotans who do not have a family member or friend who has worn our nation's uniform. Upon reflection, we quickly realize that without the liberty that these men and women have defended through the years, our nation would not be what it is today, nor would citizens enjoy the freedoms that we sometimes take for granted.

My father, Harold Thune, served in the same squadron as Cecil Harris in World War II, and was Cecil's assistant flight officer. I recently had the opportunity to interview my father about his World War II experience for the Veterans History Project, an oral history archive held at the Library of Congress, and my father spoke very highly of Cecil. In fact, the advice Cecil gave my father helped him avoid being shot down. Cecil Harris was responsible for training my father's squadron, and my father describes Cecil as unqualifiedly the best pilot he had ever seen, and that he had never seen a pilot fly a plane like he did.

The tragic reality is that our nation loses hundreds of veterans every day. Memorial Day gives us an opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices of our veterans from every conflict, and it is fitting that we do so. Our veterans deserve to be remembered and celebrated, and these programs help do just that.

Again, I wish you all the very best as you gather to celebrate in Cresbard. My thoughts are with you all. •

COMMENDING EMILY SUSANNA TSCHETTER

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Emily Susanna Tschetter, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Emily is a graduate of Brookings High School in Brookings, SD. Currently she is attending South Dakota State University, where she is majoring in biology. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Emily for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come. •

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States was 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The following message from the President of the United States was transmitted to the Senate by one of his secretaries:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency and related measures dealing with the former Liberian regime of Charles Taylor are to continue in effect beyond July 22, 2009.

The actions and policies of former Liberian President Charles Taylor and other persons, in particular their unlawful depletion of Liberian resources and their removal from Liberia and sequestering of Liberian funds and property, continue to undermine Liberia's transition to democracy and the orderly development of its political, administrative, and economic institutions and resources. These actions and policies continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to the former Liberian regime of Charles Taylor.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 16, 2009.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:51 a.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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 762. An act to validate final patent number 27-2005-0081, and for other purposes.

H.R. 934. An act to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands.

H.R. 1044. An act to provide for the administration of Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9355(a), amended by Public Law 108-375, 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 Air Force Academy: Mr. POLIS of Colorado, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, and Mr. LAMBORN of Colorado.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 762. An act to validate final patent number 27-2005-0081, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 934. An act to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1044. An act to provide for the administration of Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1462. an original bill to promote clean energy technology development, enhanced energy efficiency, improved energy security, and energy innovation and workforce development, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-48).

By Mr. KERRY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 345. a bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2012, to rename the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 as the “Tropical Forest and Coral Conservation Act of 2009”, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-49).

By Mr. KERRY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with amendments:

S. 954. a bill to authorize United States participation in the replenishment of resources of the International Development Association, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-50).

By Mr. KERRY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 955. a bill to authorize United States participation in, and appropriations for the United States contribution to, the African Development Fund and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, to require budgetary disclosures by multilateral development banks, to

encourage multilateral development banks to endorse the principles of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-51).

By Mr. SCHUMER, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, with amendments:

S. 1415. a bill to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to ensure that absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters are aware of their voting rights and have a genuine opportunity to register to vote and have their absentee ballots cast and counted, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 1458. A bill to encourage the development and implementation of a comprehensive, global strategy for the preservation and reunification of families and the provision of permanent parental care for orphans; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. VITTER):

S. 1459. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for cooperative governing of individual health insurance coverage offered in interstate commerce; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 1460. A bill to amend title VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for college retention challenge grants; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1461. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat trees and vines producing fruit, nuts, or other crops as placed in service in the year in which it is planted for purposes of special allowance for depreciation; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 1462. An original bill to promote clean energy technology development, enhanced energy efficiency, improved energy security, and energy innovation and workforce development, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BURRIS:

S. 1463. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a National Organ and Tissue Donor Registry Resource Center, to authorize grants for State organ and tissue donor registries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 1464. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish the transfer of any nuclear weapon, device, material, or technology to terrorists as a crime against humanity; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. BURRIS):

S. 1465. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to require child care providers to provide to parents information regarding whether such providers carry liability insurance; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 1466. A bill to establish the position of Deputy United States Trade Representative for Trade Enforcement and a Trade Enforcement Division in the Office of the United States Trade Representative, to establish a Chief Manufacturing Negotiator in the Office of the United States Trade Representative, to strengthen enforcement of United States intellectual property rights at United States borders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. McCASKILL:

S. 1467. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide coverage under Traumatic Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance for adverse reactions to vaccinations administered by the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WEBB (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1468. A bill to increase access to adult education to provide for economic growth; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 1469. A bill to provide for the administration of Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. JOHANNS:

S. Res. 212. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that any savings under the Medicare program should be invested back into the Medicare program, rather than creating new entitlement programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

S. Res. 213. A resolution recognizing the historical significance of the city of Santa Fe, New Mexico on the occasion of its 400th anniversary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. Res. 214. A resolution congratulating Lucas Glover on winning the 2009 United States Open golf tournament; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VITTER, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. Res. 215. A resolution designating August 8, 2009, as “National Marina Day”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. Res. 216. A resolution acknowledging the 25th anniversary of the nomination of Representative Geraldine A. Ferraro as the first woman selected by a major political party to run for the Office of the Vice President; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 251

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 251, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to permit targeted interference with mobile radio services within prison facilities.