

contributed tremendously to a number of highly advanced projects.

Fiber Materials was established in the southern Maine town of Biddeford in 1969 and has become a global leader in the design, manufacture, and testing of a variety of advanced composites in its 40 years of operation. The company produces a wide range of materials, from carbon/carbon composites used in the construction of heatshields and missile nosetips, to quartz products designed for printed circuit boards or electrical and thermal insulation. Fiber Materials now employs roughly 180 employees at its facilities in Biddeford and Presque Isle, and its Space Technology Division in Columbus, OH.

Fiber Materials has earned a number of financial awards to fund the development of critical projects through the Small Business Innovation Research, or SBIR, program at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA. The SBIR program provides funding to small businesses with innovative, early stage ideas that align with the research and development goals of 11 different Federal agencies, including NASA, the Department of Defense, and the National Institutes of Health. One of the most recent systems that Fiber Materials contributed to under NASA's purview is ORION Launch Abort System, which will allow the crew to escape the spacecraft in the case of an emergency. The system was successfully tested in May 2010.

In recognition of Fiber Materials' dedicated efforts to NASA, the Johnson Space Center recently recognized the company with its 2010 Small Business Subcontractor of the Year Award. According to NASA's Office of Small Business Programs, the award acknowledges "successful and innovative practices that promote small business participation in the initiatives that NASA undertakes." Fiber Materials has been an invaluable resource to the Federal government from the beginning, and I commend the company for playing such an integral part in some of NASA's most critical initiatives.

Small businesses that are versatile and multifaceted such as Fiber Materials will be critical as the United States seeks to continue in its role as a world leader. Undoubtedly, participating in programs like SBIR will provide the company with countless additional opportunities to simultaneously contribute to NASA's mission and create jobs in Maine. I thank everyone at Fiber Materials for their strong work ethic, ingenuity, and dedication, and I wish them continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN GEORGE M. VUJNOVICH

● Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I wish to honor an outstanding Serbian-American, Captain (Ret.) George M. Vujnovich, who was recently awarded the Bronze Star Medal, for his heroic actions during World War II.

The Bronze Star is awarded to military service personnel for bravery, acts of merit or meritorious service. When awarded for bravery, it is the fourth-highest combat award of the U.S. Armed Forces. Captain Vujnovich's determination to rescue and save the trapped airmen and subsequent participation in the planning and execution of Operation Halyard—resulted in one of the most successful air force rescue missions in history; and an operation so secret that the records were only declassified in 1997.

I was made aware of the Halyard Mission as a boy in 1946. I was in attendance at a social event in my parents' home to honor Captain Nick Lalich as one of the leaders who was part of the military team that parachuted into Serbia to execute and carry out Captain Vujnovich's plan to rescue and evacuate the airmen.

Captain Vujnovich served with the Office of Strategic Services; the predecessor of the modern Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, and the wartime organization charged with coordinating activities behind enemy lines for the branches of the U.S. military. Operation Halyard evolved in wake of the Allied bombing campaign to destroy Nazi Germany's vast network of petroleum resources in occupied Eastern Europe. The most vital target of bombing was the facilities located in Ploesti, Romania, which supplied 35 percent of Germany's wartime petroleum. Beginning in April 1944, bombers of the Fifteenth Allied Air Force began a relentless campaign to blast the heavily guarded facilities in Ploesti in an attempt to halt petroleum production altogether. By August, Ploesti was virtually destroyed—but at the cost of 350 bombers lost, with their crews either killed, captured, or missing in action.

The assault on Ploesti forced hundreds of Allied airmen to bail out over Nazi-occupied eastern Serbia, an area patrolled by the Allied-friendly Chetnik guerrilla army. When the Chetnik commander, General Draza Mihailovich, realized that Allied airmen were parachuting into his territory, he ordered his troops, as well as the local peasantry, to aid the aviators by taking them to Chetnik headquarters in Pranjani, Serbia for evacuation.

General Mihailovich's attempts to alert American authorities to the situation regrettably initially failed to produce action. Fortunately, fate would have it that when Mirjana Vujnovich, a Serb employee of the Yugoslav embassy in Washington, DC, heard of the trapped airmen, and immediately wrote to her husband, Captain Vujnovich, stationed in Bari, Italy. As an American, descending from Serb parents, Vujnovich knew the region intimately and also knew how to escape from Nazi-occupied territory: he had been a medical student in Belgrade when Yugoslavia fell to the Axis powers in 1941, and he and his wife spent months sneaking through minefields

and begging for visas before they finally escaped from Nazi-occupied Europe.

I was excited that someone with a name like mine was such a hero and was the genesis of my interest in Yugoslavia. In fact it left such an impression on me that my first paper in undergrad school was titled "How the U.S. sold out Yugoslavia at Yalta and Tehran".

Captain Vujnovich made it his personal crusade to get the airmen home. From the outset though, Operation Halyard encountered opposition from Allied leaders—from the U.S. State Department, from communist sympathizers in the British Special Operations Executive, SOE, even from British Prime Minister Winston Churchill himself. It was an operation that seemed condemned from the start, but Captain Vujnovich persevered rather than let the mission die. His persistence paid off. Even though the operation endured from August 9, 1944, through December 27, 1944, within only the first 2 days, Operation Halyard successfully retrieved 241 American and Allied airmen. By the time the Operation was officially ended, Vujnovich's team had airlifted 512 downed Allied airmen to safety without the loss of a single life or aircraft—a truly impressive accomplishment.

Captain George Vujnovich's recognition as a hero and valued asset to this country and the U.S. Air Force is long overdue. Frankly, had the records of the operation not remained sealed until 1997, I feel certain Captain Vujnovich would have received this honor years ago. Nevertheless, the decades do not and cannot diminish the valor and patriotism of this extraordinary man. I ask all my colleagues to join me now to honor this Serbian-American hero, to thank him for his dedicated service to our country and to congratulate him for winning the Bronze Star. Captain Vujnovich, I salute you.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3082) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, with an amendment.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:47 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 3789. An act to limit access to Social Security account numbers.

S. 3987. An act to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act with respect to the applicability of identity theft guidelines to creditors.

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

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. 3353. An act to provide for American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas to be treated as States for certain criminal justice programs.

H.R. 4501. An act to require certain return policies from businesses that purchase precious metals from consumers and solicit such transactions through an Internet website.

H.R. 5012. An act to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to establish a weekend and holiday feeding program to provide nutritious food to at-risk school children on weekends and during extended school holidays during the school year.

H.R. 5470. An act to exclude an external power supply for certain security or life safety alarms and surveillance system components from the application of certain energy efficiency standards under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act.

The message also announced that the House agree to the amendments numbered 1 and 2 of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5281) to amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify and improve certain provisions relating to the removal of litigation against Federal officers or agencies to Federal courts, and for other purposes; and, further, that the House agree to the amendment numbered 3 of the Senate to the aforementioned bill, with an amendment.

The message further announced that the House agreed to the bill (S. 3998) to extend the Child Safety Pilot Program, without amendment.

At 4:17 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, 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. 6412. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to require the Attorney General to share criminal records with State sentencing commissions, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendments of

the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4994) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce taxpayer burdens and enhance taxpayer protections, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3353. An act to provide for American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas to be treated as States for certain criminal justice programs; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 4501. An act to require certain return policies from businesses that purchase precious metals from consumers and solicit such transactions through an Internet website; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 5012. An act to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch to establish a weekend and holiday feeding program to provide nutritious food to at-risk school children on weekends and during extended school holidays during the school year; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 6412. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to require the Attorney General to share criminal records with State sentencing commissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 9, 2010, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 3789. An act to limit access to Social Security account numbers.

S. 3987. An act to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act with respect to applicability of identity theft guidelines to creditors.

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-8399. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries; Suspension of Minimum Atlantic Surfclam Size Limit for Fishing Year 2011" (RIN0648-XZ16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8400. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA038) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8401. A communication from the Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bu-

reau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 90.617 Frequencies in the 809.750-824.750-869 MHz Bands Available for Trunked, Conventional or Cellular System Use in Non-border Areas; Section 90.677 Reconfiguration of the 806-824/851-869 Band in Order to Separate Cellular Systems From Non-cellular Systems" ((DA10-695)(WT Docket No. 02-55)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8402. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the Secretary of Transportation, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Relocation of Standard Time Zone Boundary in the State of North Dakota: Mercer County" (RIN2105-AD98) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8403. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (25); Amdt. 3398" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8404. A communication from the Policy Advisor/Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amateur Service Rules" (FCC 10-189) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8405. A communication from the Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Unlicensed Operation in the TV Broadcast Bands; ET Docket No. 04-186; Additional Spectrum for Unlicensed Devices Below 900 MHz and in the 3 GHz Band; ET Docket No. 02-380" (FCC 10-174) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8406. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 10-429, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Armed Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. DORGAN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 5811. A bill to amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine blood quantum requirement for membership in that tribe (Rept. No. 111-359).

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2782. A bill to provide personal jurisdiction in causes of action against contractors