

the glass. That speaks a lot about the character of the officer about whom we are speaking today.

Mr. President, we both extend our heartfelt thanks to GEN Pete Chiarelli, to his wife Beth, and to his children and their families for their lifetime of service to the Nation. Words cannot characterize properly the extraordinary character of General Chiarelli's accomplishments.

The Nation thanks him and wishes him success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

HONORING REGINALD COOPER AUGUSTINE, JR.

Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, I rise in tribute to an American hero and Illinois resident who was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery on December 2.

Reginald Cooper Augustine, Jr. was born on October 12, 1913 in Decatur, IL. His parents, Reginald and Pauline, were prominent members of the community, both serving at different times on the Decatur school board.

Reginald was an all American kid growing up in Illinois during the Great Depression. As a teenager in the 1920s, he spent his Saturdays at the silent moving pictures. In junior high, he spent a year delivering the Decatur Herald—getting up every morning at 3 a.m. and returning to bed by 5 a.m. During high school, he played football and participated in the school band, while also working at the Biflex Bump Company.

After graduating from Decatur High School in 1931, Reginald attended Northwestern University as a member of the third entering class of Austin Scholars. This program, launched in September 1929, provided full room, board, and tuition for 4 undergraduate years, plus a year of all-expenses paid study and travel abroad. He received his bachelor's degree from Northwestern in 1935, with a major in Latin and a minor in German. These language skills proved pivotal in the direction of the rest of his life.

After college, Reginald spent 16 months touring Europe and North Africa on a Harley-Davidson motorcycle that he acquired in Rotterdam, perfecting his knowledge of German, French, Italian, Dutch, and Spanish. During an extended stay in Germany, he witnessed a Nazi party rally in Heidelberg that he later described as akin to a Fourth of July celebration with scarlet swastika banners and leather-booted storm troopers. He returned to the U.S. in late September 1937, never forgetting what he had witnessed.

The Selective Service Act of 1940 required all U.S. residents between the ages of 21 and 35 to register, and in 1940, Mr. Augustine was 27. He was to be drafted in February, 1942, but after the Japanese Empire bombed Pearl Harbor, he went straight to the enlistment center in Peoria to sign up and serve his country in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

During the Second World War, Mr. Augustine was selected to join an elite detachment of linguists, spies and scientists by COL Boris Pash, who headed a mission code-named Alsos. This mission was led by LTG Leslie R. Groves under the Manhattan Project. Groves suspected German physicists were engaging in a similar nuclear program and feared that they would complete a bomb first. The Alsos mission was tasked with determining whether the Nazis had developed an atomic bomb. Mission operatives moved into newly liberated areas just behind advancing Allied lines to find Nazi scientists, capture and interrogate them, as well as confiscate and secure stocks of refined uranium that were urgently needed by the Manhattan Project.

Reginald was selected as an ideal candidate and put in charge of field operations for this elite detachment because of his knowledge of French and German, as well as his extensive experience in Europe. During one operation in search of uranium in September 1944, he and Colonel Pash entered a plant located near Antwerp, Belgium where fighting was still going on between British and German forces. There, they found approximately 70 tons of refined uranium.

Far more difficult was a mission to southern France, which at that time was a dangerous no man's land, occupied by 2 competing resistance movements—one Communist, the other non-Communist. According to Reginald's memoirs, "no British or American forces, and not even any units of the regular French army" were present in the area. As part of a group of 6 Alsos officers, he conducted the negotiations with partisans and officials. At a French arsenal in Toulouse, armed with a Geiger counter, he discovered a major cache of uranium. Reginald, Colonel Pash, and a well-armed U.S. military contingent later returned to remove the uranium by force. Reginald accompanied the shipment of uranium back to the U.S. on a U.S. Navy ship. This uranium was eventually used in the Little Boy bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

Reginald went on many other critical missions, including one to recover the international radium standards from a small eastern German town only hours before it was handed over to Soviet forces. He oversaw the safe transfer of Nazi scientists, as well as American scientists, from one place to another. On one occasion, he found himself face-to-face with a Nazi checkpoint, manned by an armed German crew, but escaped unharmed.

Another mission that Reginald described as "a grand climax to all Alsos operations in the war," was the seizure of a strategic German atomic research center near Stuttgart. Once the area had been secured, he escorted several captured German scientists to American territory, including Otto Hahn, discoverer of the nuclear fission principle, Nobelist Max von Laue, and

physicists Karl Wirtz, Erich Bagge and Carl von Weizsacker.

Robert Norris, author of the 2003 book *Racing for the Bomb: General Leslie R. Groves, the Manhattan Project's Indispensable Man*, noted that "Alsos was one of the most successful intelligence operations of the war."

Reginald was promoted to the rank of captain by the end of the war. He was decorated for his service, including the Bronze Star and Order of the British Empire, which he received personally from King George VI.

After the war, he continued to serve his country for over two decades as a member of the Central Intelligence Agency. This included postings in Munich and Frankfurt during the 1950s and 60s, and to Saigon in 1968.

Reginald Augustine passed away on June 30 at the age of 97 and will be laid to rest today at Arlington Cemetery. He is an example of our nation's Greatest Generation of heroes that grew up during the Depression, responded to their country's call to arms during World War II, and continued to serve during the long Cold War against communism. As President Franklin D. Roosevelt described, "This generation of Americans [had] a rendezvous with destiny."

Mr. Augustine is survived by his wife of 61 years, two daughters, two sons-in-law, and two grandchildren. We owe him and his family, as well as his generation, a debt of gratitude.

HONORING JOHN KATZ

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the distinguished public service of a true statesman from my State of Alaska, John Katz. At the new year, John will step down as director of the State of Alaska's national office here in Washington, DC, after nearly three decades in that position. John Katz is an Alaska pioneer. He has been a key player in virtually every major public policy decision in Alaska for the past 40 years—and Alaska has only been a State for 52 years. John helped Alaska's transition to statehood in our formative years. He shaped and implemented key congressional laws, including the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

John laid the foundation for Alaska's robust resource-based economy, which at one point was providing this Nation a quarter of its domestic oil. John has helped transform the Last Frontier into a modern society, bringing basic facilities like water, sewer, and phone service to a territory one-fifth the size of the lower 48 States. Overall, John has helped carefully manage Alaska's often strained relationship with the Federal Government. After working as a high school teacher and coach in Baltimore public schools, John began his long career of service to Alaska when he joined the staff of Alaska Congressman Howard Pollock. My dad, Nick

Begich, succeeded Representative Pollock as Alaska's lone Member of the U.S. House.

In 1971, John became a legislative assistant to then-Senator Ted Stevens. His wise counsel to Senator Stevens would continue until Senator Stevens' tragic passing last year. John worked in Alaska on Native claims issues and as counsel to the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission. The Commission didn't have a very sexy title, but it crafted important policy about the land management relations between the State and Federal Governments. From 1981 to 1983, John served as commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, arguably the most influential agency in Alaska State government. It oversees Alaska's 103 million acres of land and manages the resource base for our economy: oil and gas, mining, forestry, parks, and agriculture. In 1983, John was asked by then-Governor Bill Sheffield to move to Washington to direct the State's office here. It was a position in which he would serve seven different Alaska Governors, as varied politically as Alaska is richly diverse.

Democrats, Republicans, one Alaska Independent—all have relied heavily on John's encyclopedic knowledge of our State and his helping navigating the often choppy waters of Washington. Too often John's mission has been fighting against Federal encroachment into the lives of Alaskans. It is a battle we fight here every day. I, too, have relied on John's wisdom and insight, as mayor of our State's largest city, and now as I serve Alaska in this Chamber. After a distinguished career, John has cited what he called "the increased polarization and deterioration of the public policy process at the Federal level." He says it is the worst he has ever seen in nearly half a century of thankless public service. I am saddened by this turn of events and sad to agree with John about the state of our national discourse.

But I am heartened by John's dedication to the people of Alaska, to tirelessly working each and every day to educate non-Alaskans about the unique challenges and opportunities of our State. I also commend the contributions of John's longtime partner and wife, Sherry, and thank her for her sacrifice on behalf of Alaskans. John will be sorely missed as director of State and Federal relations for the State of Alaska. I only hope that he continues his distinguished service to Alaskans in the next phase of his life—and I wish him all the best.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 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. 527. An act to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the Regulatory Flexibility Act), to ensure complete analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3010. An act to reform the process by which Federal agencies analyze and formulate new regulations and guidance documents.

H.R. 3463. An act to reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions and by terminating the Election Assistance Commission.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 527. An act to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the Regulatory Flexibility Act), to ensure complete analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3010. An act to reform the process by which Federal agencies analyze and formulate new regulations and guidance documents; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3463. An act to reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions and by terminating the Election Assistance Commission; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1944. A bill to create jobs by providing payroll tax relief for middle class families and businesses, 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-4171. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Red Grouper Management Measures" (RIN0648-BB22) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

November 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4172. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Update to Information on the Effective Date of Atlantic Smoothhound Shark Fishery Management Measures" (RIN0648-BB43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4173. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries" (RIN0648-XA802) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4174. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Fisheries; Pacific Tuna Fisheries; Fishing Restrictions in the Eastern Pacific Ocean" (RIN0648-BA66) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4175. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 26 and Amendment 29 Supplement" (RIN0648-BB15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4176. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments" (RIN0648-BB47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4177. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fraser River Sockeye and Pink Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Orders" (RIN0648-XA803) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4178. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Temporary Removal of Herring Trip Limit in Atlantic Herring Management Area 3" (RIN0648-XA805) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4179. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Inseason