

REMEMBERING JOSE S. CHAVEZ

• Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, the State of New Mexico lost a great man on March 17, 2011, when Jose S. Chavez passed away at the age of 93. He was a man who served our country proudly during World War II and was a survivor of the Bataan Death March. I would like to honor his memory today.

Mr. Chavez was a man of strength. He had a strong faith, a strong will to survive, and was described as the strength and patriarch of his large and loving family.

As a member of the 200th Coastal Artillery and 515th Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Mr. Chavez served his country in the Philippines during World War II. He was captured along with many other of his fellow soldiers and forced to endure the horrors of the Bataan Death March and the more than 3 years of captivity which followed.

Mr. Chavez is credited with saving many lives during the horrific march—picking up and carrying men to keep them from being killed. Mistaken for dead and put in a grave three times during his captivity, Mr. Chavez refused to give up. It was his strong faith in God, and also in those he served with, which helped him and others survive the inhumane conditions they faced.

After returning home he worked as a farmer before continuing his service to his country by reenlisting in the military and later taking a government job.

Mr. Chavez's strength extended beyond the battlefield to his home life, where he was the pillar of his large family. He built the home that he and his wife of 65 years, Susie, lived in and was known as the man who could fix anything and could always be found tinkering away at a project.

His family will miss his strong-willed and loving personality, and certainly feel the void left by Mr. Chavez's passing. Let us take a moment today to remember Mr. Chavez and the remarkable strength he shared not only with his family, but with our country during his service. •

TRIBUTE TO EDGAR PEARA

• Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, on April 14, the Government of France will present the National Order of the Legion of Honor to Edgar Peara one of Oregon's more modest heroes.

The Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur was established by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802 as a way of recognizing exceptional merit regardless of rank, class, or privilege. The Order remains the highest decoration in France and is being bestowed upon Edgar for his service in that country during World War II.

Already highly decorated by the United States for bravery and valor, Edgar's story is indeed remarkable and worthy of high praise. After the bomb-

ing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Edgar immediately volunteered for the military. At first he was told he would be more valuable to the Nation if he returned to his engineer studies, but the call to action was too strong. By June 1942 he received a commission in the U.S. Army and was assigned as an officer in the 531 Amphibious Combat Regiment of the 1st Engineer Amphibious Combat Brigade.

His unit specialized in supporting large amphibious invasions, clearing the way for the infantry and keeping the Army on the move. By November 1942, Edgar's outfit landed in Arzew, Algeria, where Edgar, determined to keep the situation as calm as possible, went from house to house telling anxious Algerians unfamiliar with war or Americans that "we come in peace. We are not here to harm anyone. We simply want you to surrender any weapons so that all armed resistance ceases." He said later that "No one gave us any trouble and we collected so many arms we could hardly carry them all."

This action set the tone for Edgar's entire war experience and his later life. As he prepared for the invasion of Italy, Edgar made a conscious effort to look for, and be grateful for, whatever there was to be appreciated that day, whether it was food, a dry place to sleep, reasonable weather, the friendships of comrades, and being well and safe. As Edgar put it, "That change in attitude helped make me a happier person, for I stopped thinking that my contentment had to lie in the future when the war was over."

After participating in the invasions of Sicily and mainland Italy, Edgar was moved to the southwest coast of England in order to help ready allied forces for D-day. He landed at Utah Beach on the upper French coast on June 6, 1944. Early that morning he noticed a battalion medical aid station was under intense fire. Recognizing the danger to those helpless soldiers, he scrambled to find a more protected area. He came across an abandoned German concrete underground command post. Dodging bullets and shells, he ran back to help move the wounded to safety.

Edgar would later be part of the invasion of Okinawa, Japan, making him one of the few veterans to serve in Africa, Europe, and the Pacific.

Taking what he learned from his experiences in war, Edgar dedicated himself to a life of internal peace and became a staunch advocate of greater peace for all humanity. He used his GI Bill to train for ordination as a Christian Science practitioner. During the Korean war, Edgar served as a Christian Science chaplain at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, IL. After this duty he went on to become a Unitarian Universalist minister. Edgar has worked diligently to help others find the same peace he discovered in his own heart and to help all mankind achieve greater peace between neighbors and nations.

As an Oregonian, I could not be more proud of Edgar, his wonderful story, and his life's work. He truly is a hero and embodies the best of our State. As our Nation continues to struggle in conflicts overseas, Edgar serves as a testament to the belief that sometime restraint is as powerful as force in times of war. I am very appreciative of Edgar's selfless service. The people of France are thanking him today with this award. Oregon thanks him for continuing to make us proud. •

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 9:52 a.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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1217. An act to repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

At 3:16 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1473. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes.

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

H. Con. Res. 43. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

At 4:47 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 35. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 1473.

H. Con. Res. 36. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 1473.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1217. An act to repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following bill was discharged from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, and referred as indicated:

S. 375. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with State foresters authorizing State foresters to provide certain forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration and protection services; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, April 14, 2011, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill and joint resolution:

S. 307. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 217 West King Street, Martinsburg, West Virginia, as the "W. Craig Broadwater Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

S.J. Res. 8. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Stephen M. Case 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-1355. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs) transmitting seven legislative proposals; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1356. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Office of International Affairs, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act; Identification and Certification Procedures to Address Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Activities and Bycatch of Protected Living Marine Resources" (RIN0648-AV51) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1357. 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 "Examination of Returns and Claims for Refund, Credit or Abatement; Determination of Correct Tax Liability" (Rev. Proc. 2011-29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1358. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Medicare Ambulatory Surgical Center Value-Based Purchasing Implementation Plan"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1359. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Millennium Challenge Corporation's activities during fiscal year 2010; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1360. A communication from the Senior Vice President, Diversity and Labor Relations, Tennessee Valley Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the fiscal year 2010 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1361. A communication from the Deputy Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2010 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. Res. 128. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 1 through 7, 2011.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. David L. Goldfein, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Robert W. Cone, to be General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. David S. Fadok, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Lt. Gen. David M. Rodriguez, to be General.

Army nominations beginning with Colonel Norvell V. Coots and ending with Colonel Brian C. Lein, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 8, 2011.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORD on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nominations beginning with Travis R. Adams and ending with Ilaina M. Wingler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 30, 2011.

Air Force nominations beginning with Frederick C. Aban and ending with Catherine L. Wynn, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 30, 2011.

Air Force nominations beginning with Allan K. Doan and ending with Andrew L.

Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 31, 2011.

Air Force nominations beginning with Budi R. Bahureksa and ending with Muhammad A. Sheikh, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 31, 2011.

Army nomination of Michael K. Pyle, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Janet Manning, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with John H. Barkemeyer and ending with D010566, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 16, 2011.

Army nominations beginning with Michael G. Pond and ending with William M. Stephens, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 30, 2011.

Army nomination of Juan J. Derojas, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of David S. Goins, to be Major.

Army nomination of Kimberly A. Speck, to be Major.

Army nomination of Lyndall J. Soule, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with James J. Houlihan and ending with Jason S. Kim, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 31, 2011.

Army nominations beginning with Joshua P. Stauffer and ending with Bridget C. Wolfe, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 31, 2011.

Army nominations beginning with Edwin Robins and ending with Jeffrey M. Tiede, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 31, 2011.

Army nominations beginning with Richard J. Schoonmaker and ending with Edward W. Lumpkins, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 31, 2011.

Army nominations beginning with John H. Bordes and ending with Edna J. Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 31, 2011.

Army nominations beginning with Richard R. Jordan and ending with April B. Turner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 31, 2011.

Army nominations beginning with Carlson A. Bradley and ending with Sylvester E. Waller, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 8, 2011.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Peter G. Bailiff and ending with Timothy D. Sechrest, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 2, 2011.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Joe H. Adkins, Jr. and ending with James B. Zientek, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 16, 2011.

Navy nomination of Medrina B. Gilliam, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of David S. Plurad, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with James P. Kitzmiller and ending with Jonathan D. Szczesny, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 31, 2011.

By Mr. JOHNSON, of South Dakota, for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*Eric L. Hirschhorn, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration.