

His comrades found him in a canal, face down, underwater, shrapnel in his brain.

For months, he lay in a coma. The next time I met him, in the hospital, he couldn't speak; he could barely move. Over the years, he's endured dozens of surgeries and procedures, and hours of grueling rehab every day.

Even now, Cory is still blind in one eye. He still struggles on his left side. But slowly, steadily, with the support of caregivers like his dad Craig, and the community around him, Cory has grown stronger. Day by day, he's learned to speak again and stand again and walk again—and he's working toward the day when he can serve his country again.

"My recovery has not been easy," he says. "Nothing in life that's worth anything is easy."

Cory is here tonight. And like the Army he loves, like the America he serves, Sergeant First Class Cory Remsburg never gives up, and he does not quit.

My fellow Americans, men and women like Cory remind us that America has never come easy. Our freedom, our democracy, has never been easy. Sometimes we stumble; we make mistakes; we get frustrated or discouraged. But for more than 200 years, we have put those things aside and placed our collective shoulder to the wheel of progress—to create and build and expand the possibilities of individual achievement; to free other nations from tyranny and fear; to promote justice, and fairness, and equality under the law, so that the words set to paper by our founders are made real for every citizen. The America we want for our kids—a rising America where honest work is plentiful and communities are strong; where prosperity is widely shared and opportunity for all lets us go as far as our dreams and toil will take us—none of it is easy. But if we work together; if we summon what is best in us, with our feet planted firmly in today but our eyes cast towards tomorrow—I know it's within our reach.

Believe it.

God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, January 28, 2014.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:08 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1684. An act to convey certain property to the State of Wyoming to consolidate the historic Ranch A, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2166. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture to expedite access to certain Federal lands under the administrative jurisdiction of each Secretary for good Samaritan search-and-recovery missions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3008. An act to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of National Forest

System land in Los Padres National Forest in California, 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. 1684. An act to convey certain property to the State of Wyoming to consolidate the historic Ranch A, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2166. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture to expedite access to certain Federal lands under the administrative jurisdiction of each Secretary for good Samaritan search-and-recovery missions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3008. An act to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of National Forest System land in Los Padres National Forest in California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1963. A bill to repeal section 403 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013.

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-4441. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, an interim response to the Conference Report 112-705 of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2013, Section 737; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4442. A communication from the President of the United States of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 12947 with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4443. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Registration of Municipal Advisors" (RIN3235-AK86) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4444. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA-2013-0002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4445. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Executive Compensation" (RIN2590-AA12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23,

2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4446. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Golden Parachute Payments" (RIN2590-AA08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4447. A communication from the Director of Human Resources, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, three (3) reports relative to vacancies in the Environmental Protection Agency, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4448. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Species; Designation of a Nonessential Experimental Population of Central Valley Spring-Run Chinook Salmon Below Friant Dam in the San Joaquin River, CA" (RIN0648-BC68) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4449. 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 "Bond Premium Carryforward" ((RIN1545-BL28) (TD 9653)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4450. 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 "Sales-Based Royalties and Vendor Allowances" ((RIN1545-BI57) (TD 9652)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4451. 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 "Computation of, and Rules Relating to, Medical Loss Ratio" ((RIN1545-BL05) (TD 9651)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4452. 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 "2014 Prevailing State Assumed Interest Rates" (Rev. Rul. 2014-4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4453. 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 "Exclusion from Income of Payments to Care Providers from Medicaid Waiver Programs" (Notice 2014-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4454. 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 "Current Refundings of Recovery Zone Facility Bonds" (Notice 2014-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4455. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-

Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or 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 (OSS-2014-0042); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4456. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to groups designated by the Secretary of State as Foreign Terrorist Organizations (OSS 2014-0043); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4457. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's response to the GAO report entitled "Central America: U.S. Agencies Considered Various Factors in Funding Security Activities, but Need to Assess Progress in Achieving Inter-agency Objectives"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4458. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 13-155); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4459. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, twenty-nine (29) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of State, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2014; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4460. A communication from the Chairman of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on the Current Disposition of Highly Enriched Uranium Exports Used as Fuel or Targets in Nuclear Research or Test Reactors"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4461. 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 2014-0001—2014-0010); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4462. A communication from the Executive Analyst, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, four (4) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Health and Human Services; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4463. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Pediatric Uses of Devices; Requirement for Submission of Information on Pediatric Subpopulations That Suffer From a Disease or Condition That a Device Is Intended To Treat, Diagnose, or Cure" (RIN0910-AG29) (Docket No. FDA-2009-N-0458) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4464. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Payment of Premiums; Large-Plan Flat-Rate Premium" (RIN1212-AB26) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on January 15, 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 611. A bill to make a technical amendment to the T'uf Shur Bien Preservation Trust Area Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-136).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Brad R. Carson, of Oklahoma, to be Under Secretary of the Army.

*William A. LaPlante, Jr., of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

*Madelyn R. Creedon, of Indiana, to be Principal Deputy Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration.

Air Force nomination of Col. Donald R. Lindberg, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. William D. Cobetto, to be Major General.

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Bart O. Iddins, to be Major General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Colonel Roy-Alan C. Agustin and ending with Colonel Stephen C. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Colonel Dennis J. Gallegos and ending with Colonel John S. Tuohy, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Colonel Paul D. Jacobs and ending with Colonel Andrew E. Salas, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brigadier General Jon K. Kelk and ending with Brigadier General Kenneth W. Wisian, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brigadier General Daryl L. Bohac and ending with Brigadier General Robert S. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brigadier General Christopher J. Bence and ending with Brigadier General Mark W. Westergren, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Air Force nomination of Col. Paul W. Tibbets IV, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Lt. Gen. David D. Halverson, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. Stuart W. Risch, to be Brigadier General, Judge Advocate General's Corps.

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 nomination of Teresa G. Paris, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Joel K. Warren, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jeffrey P. Tan and ending with Cristalle A. Cox, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Robert D. Coxwell and ending with Scot L. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Therese A. Bohusch and ending with James A. Stephenson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Richard T. Barker and ending with Ian P. Wiechert, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jenara L. Allen and ending with Derrick A. Zech, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Erin E. Artz and ending with Todd K. Zuber, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Air Force nominations beginning with Adam L. Ackerman and ending with Kristen P. Zeligs, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Army nomination of David W. Bryant, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Joseph B. Berger III and ending with William D. Smoot III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 7, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Joseph A. Anderson and ending with D011695, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Victor M. Anda and ending with Joshua A. Worley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Tracy K. Abenoja and ending with Daniel J. Yourk, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Harris A. Abbasi and ending with David M. Zupancic, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2014.

Army nominations beginning with Stephen E. Forsyth, Jr. and ending with Eric J. Frye, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 16, 2014.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)