

Between January of 1942 and December of 1944, thousands of prisoners of war from the United States who had survived the surrenders throughout the Pacific were shipped in unmarked transports, known as “hellships” for forced labor, often with private companies, throughout the Japanese Empire.

By the war’s end, more than 12,000 Americans had died in squalid POW camps, in the fetid holds of the “hellships,” or in forced labor camps owned by Japanese companies where they were denied food, water, sanitation, clothing, and medical care. As a result, the death rate for American POWs of Japan was 40 percent. Less than half of the men of New Mexico Coast Artillery and the members of the 192nd and 194th Provisional Tank Battalions returned home after the war.

Surviving as a POW of Japan and returning home was the beginning of new battles: finding acceptance in society and living with serious mental and physical ailments that the Veterans Administration was unprepared to address, resulting in death rates that were more than twice those of the comparably aged White male population of the time.

The veterans of the early defensive battles in the Pacific represented all States, Tribes, and Territories of the United States, a diversity of ethnicities and religions embodying the American spirit of perseverance, faith, and optimism.

President Ronald Reagan first proclaimed National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day in 1988, which was established to coincide with April 9, the anniversary of the surrender of Bataan and the start of the Bataan Death March.

The U.S. Navy has honored the service and heroism of the veterans of early battles in the Pacific by naming several ships after the 1942 fighting in the Philippines and other places in the Pacific, including one still in service, the USS *Bataan* (LHD-5), homeported in Norfolk, VA; as well as the now decommissioned USS *Corregidor* (CVE-58); USS *Antrim* (FFG-20); USS *Bangust* (DE-739), USS *Baron* (DE-739), USS *Elrod* (FFG-55), and USS *Rooks* (DD-804).

It is time to recognize the Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor: ordinary men and women who found uncommon courage in extraordinary circumstances to fight the impossible and endure the unimaginable for freedom from tyranny and oppression.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING WAVES

• Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, in 1973 the citizens of Fairview, TN set out to solve a problem. Their community was growing, but individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities were being left behind. Not content to ignore their plight, a small

group of families and local leaders put their heads together. After much deliberation, Waves was born.

50 years later, what started as a small but significant passion project has blossomed into a pillar of the Williamson County community. Each day, close to 100 full-time and part-time employees and volunteers serve more than 700 children and adults through early learning, adult day service, adult residential, and employment programs.

Here in Washington, we provide what support we can to community programs like these. But, as the people at Waves and other places like it will tell you, what keeps these organizations going is the support of their friends and neighbors and the belief in the possibility of a loving and more supportive world.

As they celebrate their 50th anniversary, I want to thank the dedicated team at Waves for giving so much of themselves to this cause. On behalf of all Tennesseans, I wish you the very best and look forward to seeing what you do next.●

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 424. A bill to protect the seniors of the United States, 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-479. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revised Jurisdictional Thresholds for Section 8 of the Clayton Act” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-480. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revised Jurisdictional Thresholds for Section 7A of the Clayton Act” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-481. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2019 Annual Report of the National Institute of Justice”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-482. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Literature Review and Data Analysis on Deaths in Custody”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-483. A communication from the President of the United States Capitol Historical Society, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Society’s fiscal year 2022 annual report and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL); to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-484. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to notifying Congress that the Commission did not complete or initiate competitive sourcing for conversion in fiscal year 2022, nor do they plan to do so in fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-485. A communication from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modifications of Approval Requirements for Courses Designed to Prepare Individuals for Licensure or Certifications” (RIN2900-AQ91) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC-486. A communication from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Amendments” (RIN2900-AR79) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC-487. A communication from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Emergent Suicide Care” (RIN2900-AR50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC-488. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans, Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-489. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Withdrawal of the Statement of Enforcement Principles Regarding ‘Unfair Methods of Competition’ under Section 5 of the FTC Act” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-490. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Policy Statement of the Federal Trade Commission on Rebates and Fees in Exchange for Excluding Lower-Cost Drug Products” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-491. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Telemarketing Sales Rule Fees” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-492. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Adjustments to Civil Penalty Amounts” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-493. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Automotive Fuel Ratings, Certification, and Posting" (RIN3064-AB39) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-494. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Evaluation for BWRVIP-321, Boiling Water Reactor and Internals Project, Plan for Extension of the Boiling Water Reactor Integrated Surveillance Program Through Second License Renewal" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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 Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CASIDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 398. A bill to prevent the use of additional Internal Revenue Service funds from being used for audits of taxpayers with taxable incomes below \$400,000 in order to protect low- and middle-income earning American taxpayers from an onslaught of audits from an army of new Internal Revenue Service auditors funded by an unprecedented, nearly \$80,000,000,000, infusion of new funds; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 399. A bill to place limitations on exempting positions from the competitive service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 400. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to annually report on aviation consumer complaints related to passengers with a disability; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. HAGERTY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. VANCE, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. COTTON, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 401. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove silencers from the definition of firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BRAUN:

S. 402. A bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to require the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to approve commencing, intervening in, or participating in certain litigation, and for other

purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 403. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a public education campaign across all relevant programs of the Health Resources and Services Administration to increase oral health literacy and awareness; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 404. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to obtain the consent of affected State and local governments before making an expenditure from the Nuclear Waste Fund for a nuclear waste repository, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 405. A bill to amend the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 to increase the availability of heating and cooling assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 406. A bill to establish the Public Health Information and Communications Advisory Committee for purposes of providing recommendations and reports, and to support educational initiatives on communication and dissemination of information during public health emergencies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 407. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a methodology for determining State allotments for Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payments that is based on State poverty levels, to require States to prioritize disproportionate share hospital payments on the basis of Medicaid inpatient utilization and low-income utilization rates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. REED, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 408. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a windfall profits excise tax on crude oil and to rebate the tax collected back to individual taxpayers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 409. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide student loan deferment for victims of terrorist attacks; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 410. A bill to authorize a Federal report and longitudinal study regarding the effects of social media on users under age 18; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. KING):

S. 411. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 412. A bill to provide that it is unlawful to knowingly distribute private intimate visual depictions with reckless disregard for the individual's lack of consent to the distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. REED, Mr. LUJÁN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 413. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the rate of the excise tax on the repurchase of corporate stock, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 414. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 415. A bill to provide reliable and evidence-based food and energy security; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 416. A bill to designate the Russian-based mercenary Wagner Group as a foreign terrorist organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 417. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to remove or permanently conceal the name of Francis Newlands on the grounds of the memorial fountain located at Chevy Chase Circle in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 418. A bill to provide financial assistance to schools impacted by radioactive contaminants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 419. A bill to require social media platforms to verify that all individuals who create an account on the platform are age 16 or older, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LEE, Mr. COTTON, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. VANCE, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 420. A bill to prohibit Federal funds from being made available to facilities that refuse to provide treatment based on COVID-19 vaccination status; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 421. A bill to prohibit Federal funding to the Wuhan Institute of Virology and to require a GAO study regarding Federal funds previously provided to such institute or to entities affiliated with the Chinese Government; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 422. A bill to remove legal impediments preventing construction of a border barrier along the international border between the United States and Mexico, improve the construction requirements for such barrier,