

against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.●

#### TRIBUTE TO OPERATION BLESSING

• Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to all involved in organizing Operation Blessing. Operation Blessing was an event hosted by seven churches for the families of the 159th Aviation Brigade at Fort Campbell, KY which took place on May 3, 2003. It was a work of charity and compassion for which all those involved are certainly deserving of thanks and respect.

David Mudd of God's Outreach, Inc. in Owensboro, KY, led the organization of the event working closely with other community and church leaders, including Mrs. Allison Bird of Fort Campbell; Pastor Troy Oakley of World Destiny Church in Hopkinsville; Pastor Roy Ellis of Christian Assembly Church in Madisonville; Pastor Cleddie Keith of Heritage Assembly of God in Florence; Pastor Louis Embry of Christ Community Church in Hopkinsville; Pastor Tim and Linda Rigdon of New Covenant Church in Providence; Pastor Garswa Matally of Wing Avenue Baptist Church in Owensboro; Pastor Sammy Wilson of Word and Spirit Church in Owensboro; Don Boyd of Bethel Church in McDaniels; Steve Kukul of the Lipton Corporation in Owensboro; and Pastor David Pry of River Outreach Ministries in Evansville, IN.

These men and women raised a lot of needed items and services for the families of the 159th Aviation Brigade, ranging from washing machines and furniture to live music and good company and fellowship. There was a raffle to distribute bicycles and helmets for children of the 159th and 17,000 pounds of food was distributed to the military families. Many of the members of the pastors' congregations came from all around the Commonwealth for fellowship with the families of deployed soldiers and to volunteer their time and services. The most important gift Operation Blessing gave was the reassurance that the sacrifices soldiers and their families make do not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Operation Blessing was a shining example of love of country and of compassion for our fellow soldiers. These women and men demonstrated that America treats her soldiers and their families with much deserved respect and due honor. They are to be highly commended for their acts of charity and their example should be noted and followed by all.

I thank the Senate for allowing me to recognize Operation Blessing and the sacrifices of the 159th Aviation Brigade and their families. Those who

made this charitable event successful and those military families who stand by and support our soldiers in harm's way fighting for our freedom are truly humble and patriotic Americans.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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 Committee on the Judiciary.

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

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1215. A bill to sanction the ruling Burmese military junta, to strengthen Burma's democratic forces and support and recognize the National League of Democracy as the legitimate representative of the Burmese people, 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-2596. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Regulations, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tenant Participation in State-Financed, HUD-Assisted Housing Developments (RIN 2502-AH55) (FR-4611-F-02)" received on May 20, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2597. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Opioid Drugs in Maintenance and Detoxification Treatment of Oxidate Addictions; Addition of Buprenoxypine and Buprenorphine Combination to list of Approved Opioid Treatment Medications (0910-AA52)" received on May 21, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2598. A communication from the Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans, Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits" received on May 20, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2599. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the future supply of long-term care workers, received on May 20, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2600. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to constitutional concerns about the "Museum and Library Services Act of 2003" received on June 1, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2601. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Fiscal Year 2003-2008 Strategic Plan of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, received on May 20, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2602. A communication from the White House Liaison, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy and designation of an acting officer for the position of Assistant Secretary for Budget, Technology and Finance, received on May 20, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2603. A communication from the Office of the White House Liaison, Department of Education transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a Vacancy for the position Assistant Secretary for the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, received on May 20, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2604. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the national emergency declared by Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001, to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979, received on June 1, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2605. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to terminating the national emergencies declared in Executive Order 12808 of May 30, 1992 and Executive Order 13088 of June 9, 1998, with respect to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and revokes those and all related orders, received on June 1, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2606. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the report of a certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad to South Africa, received on May 20, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2608. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the report of a certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract in the amount of 50,000,000 or more to United Arab Emirates; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2609. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the report of a certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad to Japan, received on June 1, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2610. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the report of a