

around him, and continually performed above and beyond all expectations while in U.S. Navy. Because of his efforts, the liberty of this country is made more secure.

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL VERN CLARK

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and honor ADM Vern Clark, U.S. Navy, our 27th Chief of Naval Operations, who last week turned over the helm of the U.S. Navy to his successor. As former Secretary of the Navy and a member of the Armed Services Committee for 27 years, I have worked closely with every Chief of Naval Operations since Admiral Clark was Ensign Clark.

A child of the Midwest, Admiral Clark is a graduate of Evangel College and holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Arkansas. It is this Nation's great fortune that Admiral Clark heard the call of the sea and attended Officer's Candidate School, receiving his commission in August 1968.

His first sea duty tour was aboard USS *John W. Weeks*, DD 701. One of the first things Admiral Clark did upon assuming his present post was to obtain the picture that formally hung in the wardroom of USS *John W. Weeks* to remind him of where he came from and to keep his focus on the fleet.

Admiral Clark has had the good fortune to spend more than half of his career in command. The Navy recognized early on his potential for leadership when as a lieutenant he commanded USS *Grand Rapids*, PG98. He would go on command USS *McCloy*, FF 1038, USS *Spruance*, DD 963, the Fleet Anti-Submarine Training Center Atlantic, Destroyer Squadron One Seven, Destroyer Squadron Five, Cruiser Destroyer Group Three, Second Fleet, and the U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

On those rare occasions when Admiral Clark was not in command, he served in a series of increasingly challenging shore assignments. He completed assignments as the Special Assistant to the Director of the Systems Analysis Division in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, the Administrative Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Surface Warfare, and as the Administrative Aide to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. He served as head of the Cruiser-Destroyer Combat Systems Requirements Section and Force Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer for the Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, and he directed the Joint Staff's Crisis Action Team for Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Admiral Clark first hoisted his flag aboard the U.S. Transportation Command where he was Director of both Plans and Policy, J5 and Financial Management and Analysis, J8. While commanding the Carl Vinson Battle Group, he deployed to the Arabian Gulf and later served as the Deputy Com-

mander, Joint Task Force Southwest Asia. Admiral Clark has also served as the Deputy and Chief of Staff, United States Atlantic Fleet; the Director of Operations, J3 and subsequently Director of the Joint Staff.

Admiral Clark assumed his duties in peacetime on July 21, 2000. Sitting in his office on September 11, 2001, war came to Admiral Clark's Navy when American Airlines flight 77 hit the Pentagon just a few yards from where he was sitting. Since that day he has skillfully led the Navy in the global war against terrorism. Throughout this time, he has continued to focus on his top five priorities manpower, current readiness, future readiness, quality of service and alignment. Chief among those priorities is manpower. Admiral Clark is fond of saying that the Navy is winning the war for people. That is due in no small part to his leadership during this difficult time.

Standing beside this officer throughout his superb career has been his wife Connie, a woman to whom he owes much. She has been his key supporter, devoting her life to her husband, to her family, and to the men and women of the Navy family. She has traveled by his side for these many years visiting the fleet. Her sacrifice and devotion have served as an example and inspiration for others. This team has served our Navy well and we will miss them both.

With these words before the Senate, I seek to recognize Admiral Clark for his unwavering loyalty to the Navy and this great Nation. We thank him and wish Vern, his wife Connie, and his sons Jeffery and Christopher fair winds and following seas as they continue forward in what will most assuredly remain lives of service to our country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATING KANSAN ANDREW WOJTANIK

• Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, it is a great honor for me to recognize today a young Kansan who has been nationally recognized for his intelligence and outstanding participation in the 16th annual National Geographic World Championship Geography Bee in Budapest, Hungary. Andrew Wojtanik, of Overland Park, KS, won gold for the 2004 National Geographic Bee, and has also published a book, called *Afghanistan to Zimbabwe: Country Facts that Helped Me Win the National Geographic Bee*.

Then 14-year old Andrew was among three young Americans to compete against over 5 million students from all over the world. In preparation for the 5 day world championship, Andrew compiled a 432-page study guide with information on 193 countries around the world. After Andrew's guide was published by National Geographic Society, he was congratulated by the United States Congress on the floor of the

House of Representatives. The House passed House Resolution 815 in honor of Andrew as the champion of the National Geographic World Championship.

Andrew Wojtanik's recognition for the Geographic Bee is well deserved. His commitment to understanding the world helped America defend its championship title in the 2004 National Geographic Bee.

Today, I join the United States Congress in recognizing and paying tribute to this extraordinary young American. Andrew Wojtanik is a true champion, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this young man for his outstanding achievement in the 2004 National Geographic World Championship.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURNER COUNTY FAIR

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to honor and publicly recognize the 125th anniversary of the Turner County Fair. From August 14 through August 18, 2005, the citizens of Turner County will gather in Parker, SD, to celebrate their proud past as well as their hope for a promising future.

The Turner County Fair is South Dakota's oldest fair, first organized by the Turner County Agricultural Society and held on October 13 and 14 of 1880.

Since then, the fair has grown into a major event. This year, more than 65,000 people are expected to visit during the 4 days of festivities, and fairgoers will be treated to a rich variety of entertainment. Scheduled activities include a parade, races, concerts, a carnival, a livestock show, and a rodeo. The fair will end with a fireworks display that the local newspaper, the Southeast Trumpet, has advertised as "bigger and better than ever."

I would especially like to recognize the Turner County 4-H Club for their part in this event. Turner County 4-H has played a leading role in the fair for the last 103 years and will figure prominently again this year. The local Jaycees Club, fire department, and a number of other community organizations also deserve recognition for their participation in organizing and producing this event.

For 125 years, the Turner County Fair has brought citizens together to celebrate their heritage, their communities, and their shared hopes. It is indeed a privilege for me to officially recognize its anniversary today, and to wish the citizens of Turner County another 125 years of prosperity and happiness.●

JUNKO CUSHMAN

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I wish to submit to the record the following resolution regarding the passing of Junko Cushman. Beloved by all her friends and neighbors, Junko always found time to serve her community. Whether

working to bring arts and culture to her community, or improving the quality of healthcare, Junko always showed uncommon passion and determination in her efforts. She discovered very young that the key to a fulfilling life is a life of helping others. Junko's community may be weaker for her loss, but is no doubt stronger for her service. It is my privilege to honor her on the Senate floor today.

The resolution follows:

Whereas, the passing, at 60, of a distinguished California resident, Junko Cushman, whose good deeds earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues and the countless individuals whose lives she touched, brought immense sorrow and loss to people throughout the state; and

Whereas, although she never sought attention, Junko Cushman's natural sense of style and hands-on commitment to charitable causes were impossible to overlook; and

Whereas, a Japanese-born San Diegan, she entertained with international flair, excelled at multicultural floral arrangements, and took a leadership role in the Union of Pan Asian Communities; and

Whereas, Mrs. Cushman served as chairwoman of events benefiting the San Diego Museum of Art and the Arthritis Foundation and had been on the boards of the Old Globe Theatre, San Diego Foundation, and Burnham Cancer Institute; and

Whereas, Mrs. Cushman dedicated her time and service to San Diego State University's Japanese Cultural Fair in Balboa Park; and

Whereas, in 1987, Mrs. Cushman served as Chairwoman of a Union of Pan Asian Communities dinner dance on Harbor Island and, in 1989, she played a similar role for the Arthritis Foundation; and

Whereas, Over the years, Mrs. Cushman has shown her strong support for California's political system through her affiliation with the Democratic Party; and

Whereas, in 1989, Mrs. Cushman and her husband, Larry, were honored for their community service at a Meals on Wheels dinner dance; and

Whereas, born in Nagano, Japan, and raised in Tokyo, Mrs. Cushman graduated from the prominent Tamagawa High School and, at age 19, she moved to Los Angeles, California, where she studied English for two years before returning to Japan; and

Whereas, she leaves to mourn her passing and celebrate her legacy her husband; Larry; her brother, Hisato Hara; her stepdaughters, Diane Cushman and Janice Ziegler; her grandson, Zachary; her two granddaughters, Ashley and Sarah; her niece Mari; and her nephew Yasuto; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by Assembly Member Juan Vargas, That he expresses his deepest regret at the passing of Junko Cushman, and extends his heartfelt sympathy to her bereaved family and friends.●

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 appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 7:28 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 571. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1915 Fulton Street in Brooklyn, New York, as the "Congresswoman Shirley A. Chisholm Post Office Building".

S. 775. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 W. 7th Street in Holdenville, Oklahoma, as the "Boone Pickens Post Office".

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3070. An act to reauthorize the human space flight, aeronautics, and science programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3199. An act to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes.

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

H. Con. Res. 128. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the Russian Federation should issue a clear and unambiguous statement of admission and condemnation of the illegal occupation and annexation by the Soviet Union from 1940 to 1991 of the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3070. An act to reauthorize the human space flight, aeronautics, and science programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 128. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the Russian Federation should issue a clear and unambiguous statement of admission and condemnation of the illegal occupation and annexation by the Soviet Union from 1940 to 1991 of the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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-3137. A communication from the Executive Secretary and Chief of Staff, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy and a nomination for the position of Assistant Administrator, received on July

21, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3138. A communication from the Executive Secretary and Chief of Staff, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of USAID, Office of the General Counsel, received on July 21, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3139. 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, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3140. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Presumptions of Service Connection for Diseases Associated with Service Involving Detention or Internment as a Prisoner of War" (RIN2900-AM09) received on July 21, 2005; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3141. A communication from the Acting Director, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes in Health Benefits Enrollment" (RIN3206-AK04) received on July 21, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3142. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "The Feasibility of Using Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) Networks to Reduce the Costs of Acquiring Eyeglasses for Medicare Beneficiaries Following Cataract Surgery" to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3143. A communication from the Regulations Officer, Office of Disability and Income Security Programs, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Revisions to the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Regulations on Income and Resources" (RIN0960-AE79) received on July 21, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3144. A communication from the Regulations Officer, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Continuation of Benefit Payments to Certain Individuals Who Are Participating in a Program of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Employment Services, or Other Support Services" (RIN0960-AF86) received on July 21, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3145. A communication from the Regulations Officer, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Genitourinary Impairments" (RIN0906-AF30) received on July 21, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3146. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "July-September 2005 Bond Factor Amounts" (Rev. Rul. 2005-44) received on July 21, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3147. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Student/Teacher Claims for Exemption from Withholding Tax" (Rev. Proc. 2005-44) received on July 21, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3148. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled