

Center, based in Fort Worth, TX, from 1993 to 1997, South National Technical Center associate director, also based in Fort Worth, from 1992 to 1993, and water quality coordinator at the center from 1990 to 1992.

Before that Charles served as NRCS's State Conservationist for Arizona, based in Phoenix, from 1988 to 1990, after having been the State Conservationist for Nevada, based in Reno, from 1986 to 1988. He was the Deputy State Conservationist in New Mexico, based in Albuquerque, from 1985 to 1986, after having been the Assistant State Conservationist for Operations at that location from 1984 to 1985.

Charles worked as an area conservationist in Rio Rancho, NM, from 1983 to 1984, after working as an area conservationist in Flagstaff, AZ, from 1981 to 1982. From 1978 to 1981 he served as a district conservationist in Edinburg, TX, following service from 1976 to 1978 as a district conservationist in Eastland, TX. He was a soil conservationist for the agency in Abilene, TX, from 1973 to 1976. He began his full-time career with the agency as a soil scientist in Athens, TX, in 1969.

During his tenure with USDA, Charles founded some of the Agency's most innovative approaches to outreach, including the Student Trainees in Agriculture Related Sciences, STARS, program, an initiative to introduce underserved high school students in the Southeast to agriculture, as well as NRCS's American Indian Program Delivery Initiative, an annual conference linking USDA officials with American Indian leaders to promote tribal participation in USDA programs and services.

While working for NRCS, Charles Adams has received a number of awards and recognitions. Within the last few years alone, he received several USDA Honor Awards, including the Secretary's Award for his leadership of the Southeast Region American Indian Initiative Workgroup and the Sustainable Coffee Production Team, and his work in the Agency's Streamlining and Cost-saving Initiative. He received special recognition through a national volunteer award for his long-standing dedication to the NRCS Earth Team Volunteer Program and was the recipient of the Chief's Workforce Diversity Award which praised his encouragement and promotion of professional development among his employees. In addition, his extensive outreach efforts to minorities and women earned him a nomination for the Agency's highest Civil Rights Award in 2003.

Charles is married to the former Prenella Williamson of Port Gibson, MS. In his spare time, he enjoys raising horses on his ranch in Shreveport, LA, restoring his collection antique cars and fishing with his young grandsons.●

HONORING DR. ISAAC GREGGS

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment and honor

a man who has influenced the lives of so many students for more than 35 years.

A band director since 1969, Dr. Isaac Gregg has taken the half time show for Southern University to a different level, electrifying audiences with the band's energetic and precise performances. However, these performances could not have happened without a lot of hard work. Dr. Gregg's practices are legendary for being gruelling, but they paid off in the end.

In many ways, Dr. Gregg's practices are a metaphor for his life—when one demonstrates discipline and effort, one can succeed anywhere.

This motto certainly proved true for Dr. Gregg's band. Under his direction, the band performed around the world, including for three United States Presidential inaugurations, four Sugar Bowls, and five Super Bowls. The band has also appeared at the Astro Dome, Superdome, Yankee Stadium, and the Oakland Stadium Coliseum. For six weeks, the band played at Radio City Music Hall, and they have also made appearances on television shows such as the Bob Hope Show, Jim Nabors Show, Almost Anything Goes Show, Perry Como Show, Henry, The Fonz, Winkler Show, and the Telly Savalas Show.

In addition to the talent Dr. Gregg has brought as a band leader, he is also an accomplished musician and song writer and is the author of Southern University's fight song and alma mater. He is an honorary member of both Louisiana's House of Representatives and State Senate, and has won several major music festival awards for the marching division. Dr. Gregg has conducted honor bands throughout the country, and on behalf of Southern University he was presented with a special trophy by the National Football League for his band's outstanding performance at a Super Bowl.

Dr. Gregg's leadership is not limited to the sporting field. As president of the Louisiana College Band Directors Association, founder and president of the Lakeside Music Mart and School of Music, and State Chairman of the L.I.A.L.O. Band Festival, Dr. Gregg has proved his leadership skills and shown his commitment to the arts.

Dr. Gregg was presented with the Key of Life Award at the 31st NAACP Image Awards. The Key of Life Award was created in honor of musician Stevie Wonder and is presented to an individual or group who exemplifies Wonder's "inner vision." The award also recognizes extraordinary achievements in the areas of civil rights, human rights, and community. It is clear through all of his career, Dr. Gregg exemplified these attributes.

Dr. Gregg's power to move people through music is an amazing gift. If one is lucky in life, one improves the life of one's own children. However, Dr. Gregg has improved the lives of thousands and has left an indelible mark on African-American students and fans.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, 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.)

REPORT OF GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INFORMATION SHARING ENVIRONMENT CALLED FOR BY SECTION 1016 OF THE INTELLIGENCE REFORM AND TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT OF 2004—PM 34

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Select Committee on Intelligence:

To the Congress of the United States

The robust and effective sharing of terrorism information is vital to protecting Americans and the Homeland from terrorist attacks. To ensure that we succeed in this mission, my Administration is working to implement the Information Sharing Environment (ISE) called for by section 1016 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (IRTPA). The ISE is intended to enable the Federal Government and our State, local, tribal, and private sector partners to share appropriate information relating to terrorists, their threats, plans, networks, supporters, and capabilities while, at the same time, respecting the information privacy and other legal rights of all Americans.

Today, I issued a set of guidelines and requirements that represent a significant step in the establishment of the ISE. These guidelines and requirements, which are consistent with the provisions of section 1016(d) of IRTPA, are set forth in a memorandum to the heads of executive departments and agencies. The guidelines and requirements also address collateral issues that are essential to any meaningful progress on information sharing. In sum, these guidelines will:

Clarify roles and authorities across executive departments and agencies;

Implement common standards and architectures to further facilitate timely and effective information sharing;

Improve the Federal Government's terrorism information sharing relationships with State, local, and tribal governments, the private sector, and foreign allies;

Revamp antiquated classification and marking systems, as they relate to sensitive but unclassified information;

Ensure that information privacy and other legal rights of Americans are protected in the development and implementation of the ISE; and

Ensure that departments and agencies promote a culture of information sharing by assigning personnel and dedicating resources to terrorism information sharing.

The guidelines build on the strong commitment that my Administration and the Congress have already made to strengthening information sharing, as evidenced by Executive Orders 13311 of July 27, 2003, and 13388 of October 25, 2005, section 892 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, the USA PATRIOT Act, and sections 1011 and 1016 of the IRTPA. While much work has been done by executive departments and agencies, more is required to fully develop and implement the ISE.

To lead this national effort, I designated the Program Manager (PM) responsible for information sharing across the Federal Government, and directed that the PM and his office be part of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), and that the DNI exercise authority, direction, and control over the PM and ensure that the PM carries out his responsibilities under section 1016 of IRTPA. I fully support the efforts of the PM and the Information Sharing Council to transform our current capabilities into the desired ISE, and I have directed all heads of executive departments and agencies to support the PM and the DNI to meet our stated objectives.

Creating the ISE is a difficult and complex task that will require a sustained effort and strong partnership with the Congress. I know that you share my commitment to achieve the goal of providing decision makers and the men and women on the front lines in the War on Terror with the best possible information to protect our Nation. I appreciate your support to date and look forward to working with you in the months ahead on this critical initiative.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, December 16, 2005.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1815) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; and agree to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

From the Committee on Armed Services, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. HUNTER, WELDON of Pennsylvania, HEFLEY, SAXTON, MCHUGH, EVERETT, BARTLETT of Maryland, MCKEON, THORNBERRY, HOSTETTLER, RYUN of Kansas, GIBBONS, HAYES, CALVERT, SIMMONS, Mrs. DRAKE, Messrs. SKELTON, SPRATT, ORTIZ, EVANS, TAYLOR of Mississippi, ABERCROMBIE, MECHAN, REYES, SNYDER, SMITH of Washington, Ms. Loretta SANCHEZ of California, and Mrs. TAUSCHER.

From the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for consideration of matters within the jurisdiction of that committee under clause 11 of rule X: Messrs. HOEKSTRA, LAHOOD, and Ms. HARMAN.

From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of sections 561-563, 571, and 815 of the House bill, and sections 581-584 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. CASTLE, WILSON of South Carolina, and HOLT.

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of sections 314, 601, 1032, and 3201 of the House bill, and sections 312, 1084, 2893, 3116, and 3201 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BARTON of Texas, GILLMOR, and DINGELL.

From the Committee on Financial Services, for consideration of sections 676 and 1073 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. OXLEY, NEY, and FRANK of Massachusetts.

From the Committee on Governmental Reform, for consideration of sections 322, 665, 811, 812, 820A, 822-825, 901, 1101-1106, 1108, title XIV, sections 2832, 2841, and 2852 of the House bill, and sections 652, 679, 801, 802, 809E, 809F, 809G, 809H, 811, 824, 831, 843-845, 857, 922, 1073, 1106, and 1109 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, SHAYS, and WAXMAN.

From the Committee on Homeland Security, for consideration of sections 1032, 1033, and 1035 of the House bill, and section 907 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. LINDER, DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, and THOMPSON of Mississippi.

From the Committee on International Relations, for consideration of sections 814, 1021, 1203-1206, and 1301-1305 of the House bill, and sections 803, 1033, 1203, 1205-1207, and 1301-1306 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. HYDE, LEACH, and LANTOS.

From the Committee on the Judiciary, for consideration of sections 551, 673, 1021, 1043, and 1051 of the House bill, and sections 553, 615, 617, 619, 1072, 1075, 1077, and 1092 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. SENSENBRENNER, CHABOT, and CONYERS.

From the Committee on Resources, for consideration of sections 341-346, 601, and 2813 of the House bill, and sections 1078, 2884, and 3116 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. POMBO, BROWN of South Carolina, and RAHALL.

From the Committee on Science, for consideration of section 223 of the House bill and sections 814 and 3115 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BOEHLERT, AKIN, and GORDON.

From the Committee on Small Business, for consideration of section 223 of the House bill, and sections 814, 849-852, 855, and 901 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. MANZULLO, Mrs. KELLY, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of sections 314, 508, 601, and 1032-1034 of the House bill, and sections 312, 2890, 2893, and 3116 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. YOUNG of Alaska, DUNCAN, and SALAZAR.

From the Committee on Veterans Affairs, for consideration of sections 641, 678, 714, and 1085 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BUYER, MILLER of Florida, and Ms. BERKLEY.

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of section 677 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. THOMAS, HERGER, and McDERMOTT.

At 2:08 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2830. An act to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the pension funding rules, and for other purposes.

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

H. Con. Res. 294. Concurrent resolution calling on the international community to condemn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison camps in the People's Republic of China, as a tool for suppression maintained by the Chinese Government.

H. Con. Res. 312. Concurrent resolution urging the Government of the Russian Federation to withdraw the first draft of the proposed legislation as passed in its first reading in the State Duma that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations, and activities of domestic, international, and foreign non-governmental organizations in the Russian Federation, or to modify the proposed legislation to entirely remove these restrictions.

H. Con. Res. 315. Concurrent resolution urging the President to issue a proclamation for the observance of an American Jewish History Month.

At 8:10 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agree to the