

and combat missions to support Operations Allied Force, Southern Watch, Northern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom.

In his next assignment as Chief of Flight Operations and Acceptance/Test Pilot at the Boeing C-17A Plant in Long Beach, CA, Chris tested and accepted new C-17A aircraft, developed and flew the first commercial C-17 FAA noise certification tests, developed crew training and aircraft delivery procedures, and authored and implemented new fuel tank leak check procedures. While serving in Long Beach, he upgraded to Evaluator Pilot, and his unit was honored with the Department of Defense Flight Operations of the Year Award.

As Chief of C-17A Requirements at Headquarters Air Mobility Command at Scott AFB, Illinois, Chris helped continue to grow the C-17A fleet while receiving a Masters in Management and Leadership from Webster University. In his final year at Scott AFB, he was selected to fly in the 89th Airlift Wing at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland.

As chief of training and chief pilot at Andrews, Chris transported our Nation's leaders in two administrations, including the Vice President, the First Lady, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. During this assignment, he was upgraded to Evaluator Pilot and trained the squadron's newest pilots to adhere to the highest SAMFOX standards of the 1st Airlift Squadron's no-fail missions.

During his Air Force career, Chris flew more than 5,100 hours and received many awards, including the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, and the Aerial Achievement Medal. Throughout his accomplishments, Chris proved to be an effective and humble leader, displaying dedication, loyalty, and respect to the mission and the Air Force. His exceptional character should make us all proud that we have men and women like Chris serving in our Armed Forces.

I congratulate Lt. Col. Christopher Robert Eden for his many achievements and honors, but most of all, I thank him for his for exemplary service to our country. Fly Safe and Go Zoomies!•

BILLIONTH BAKKEN BARREL

• Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, last week, somewhere in Montana or North Dakota, the Bakken formation released its billionth barrel of crude oil. I applaud the hardworking Montanans and other workers who are part of this extraordinary development.

As debate over the Keystone XL Pipeline drags on and the President inexcusably continues to delay that project, it is important to appreciate how much has changed in less than a decade in the American energy sector. As the commander in 2004 and 2005 of

the largest deployment of Montanans to war since World War II, I understand firsthand the costs of dependence on oil from hostile places.

That same dependence costs our pocketbooks. Since multistage horizontal hydraulic fracturing has revolutionized oil and gas production in this country, we have been able to fill our tanks and tractors with more American oil. Yet last year we still spent \$384 billion on 3.5 billion barrels of foreign oil.

When that comes from close allies like Canada, whose industry is closely integrated with the American economy, we all prosper. But we remain unacceptably reliant on countries who sell us oil and then work to undermine our national security.

What does 1 billion barrels from the Bakken mean? That is 1 billion barrels of oil that did not come from places like Iran, Venezuela, Algeria or Russia.

It is 1 billion barrels of oil whose exploration, development, production, transportation, and refining occurred in the United States, injecting cash and strengthening our economy at home. While the Bakken boom, like any surge in a single sector, has brought its share of growing pains, overall it has strengthened Montana's economy, creating thousands of jobs in towns from Sidney and Fairview to Miles City and Billings, long-term investments in infrastructure and a skilled workforce.

Montana's role in the Bakken is a story of entrepreneurs. The Bakken itself was first cracked over a decade ago by a Billings geologist, Richard Findley, and his team, in the Elm Coulee Field. Montanans have continued to start new small businesses focused on the Bakken.

As we celebrate the success of the Bakken, we can also point to other energy projects around Montana that are also helping increase our energy security, from enhanced oil recovery to carbon sequestration for coal. Montana's rich renewable resources: wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass are also creating good-paying jobs and producing energy.

I salute these innovators for their continued success to make America more energy secure and create jobs in Montana.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 4487. An act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 4487. An act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 2280. A bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 839. A bill to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-156).

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. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. WALSH):

S. 2287. A bill to facilitate the development and commercial deployment of carbon capture and sequestration technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 2288. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand existing tax credits to encourage the capture, utilization, and sequestration of carbon dioxide; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) (by request):

S. 2289. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 2290. A bill to increase the maximum penalty for unfair and deceptive practices relating to advertising of the costs of air transportation; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated: