

and I had in mind that it was not just the Pentagon—as big and bureaucratic, although very effective, an institution as it is—that needed an outside push; it was Congress, it was us because we are as prone to ride along with the successful status quo and not take the painful looks out over the horizon, particularly if they affect us, as some of these changes may.

So this is the first step. It is an ongoing process. I feel even more strongly that legislation was correct in calling for an independent panel, a national defense panel. And ultimately it will be up to the Armed Services Committees, the Appropriations Committees, and all the Members of both Houses to have the guts to make the tough decisions today that will guarantee that America is strong and secure tomorrow and a lot of tomorrows forward into the 21st century.

I thank the Presiding Officer, and I yield the floor.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:01 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, 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. 1385. An act to consolidate, coordinate, and improve employment, training, literacy, and vocational rehabilitation programs in the United States, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1385. An act to consolidate, coordinate, and improve employment, training, literacy, and vocational rehabilitation programs in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1872. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 94-05; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1873. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 96-08; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1874. A communication from the Director of Defense Research and Engineering, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Master Plan for Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Education for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1875. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the notice concerning a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1876. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the notice concerning a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1877. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the notice concerning a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1878. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the notice concerning a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1879. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to live fire testing of the V-22 Osprey aircraft; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1880. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to the list of entities of proliferation concern, (RIN0694-AB60) received on May 12, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1881. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to expansion of short-form registration, (RIN 3235-AG82) received on May 9, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1882. A communication from the Acting President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report on tied aid credits; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1883. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve for 1996; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1884. A communication from the Acting General Counsel of the Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules relative to Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, received on March 25, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1885. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the U.S. Uranium Industry for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1886. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on matters contained in the Helium Act for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1887. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the biennial report on the Quality of Water, Colorado River Basin, Progress Report No. 18; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1888. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Roy-

alty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of the intention to make refunds of offshore lease revenues where a refund or recoupment is appropriate; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1889. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior (Land and Minerals Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a notice on leasing systems; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1890. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules relative to Arkansas and North Dakota, received on April 23, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1891. A communication from the Chairperson of the Klamath River Compact Commission, transmitting, a report relative to Congressional authorization to implement a management plan; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1892. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Internal Revenue Code; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1893. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Notice 97-28, received on May 6, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1894. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Announcement 97-52, received on May 12, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1895. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to Revenue Ruling 97-20, received on April 23, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1896. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to Revenue Ruling 97-22, received on May 1, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1897. A communication from the National Director, Tax Form and Publications Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of rule relative to private printing of substitute forms W-2 and W-3, (Rev-Proc. 97-24) received on April 24, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1898. A communication from the National Director, Tax Form and Publications Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of rule relative to Medical Savings Accounts, (Rev-Proc. 97-25) received on May 6, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1899. A communication from the Chief of the Regulation Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to Revenue Procedure 97-27, received in May 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1900. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to United States Savings Bonds, received on May 1, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1901. A communication from the Assistant Commissioner (for Examination) of the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, two