

in the community about enforcement if we are not credible on prevention. The juvenile block grant offers an excellent opportunity for the Senate to invest seriously in prevention.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL F. EVANS,
Police Commissioner.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, February 6, 1998, the Federal debt stood at \$5,472,049,936,751.15 (Five trillion, four hundred seventy-two billion, forty-nine million, nine hundred thirty-six thousand, seven hundred fifty-one dollars and fifteen cents).

One year ago, February 6, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,307,084,000,000 (Five trillion, three hundred seven billion, eighty-four million).

Twenty-five years ago, February 6, 1973, the Federal debt stood at \$445,600,000,000 (Four hundred forty-five billion, six hundred million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,026,449,936,751.15 (Five trillion, twenty-six billion, four hundred forty-nine million, nine hundred thirty-six thousand, seven hundred fifty-one dollars and fifteen cents) during the past 25 years.

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 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORT OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 93

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; referred jointly, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1823, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), I transmit herewith an Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Poland extending the Agreement of August 1, 1985, Concerning Fisheries Off the Coasts of the United States, with annexes and agreed minutes, as amended and extended (the

1985 Agreement). The Agreement, which was effected by an exchange of notes at Warsaw on February 5 and August 25, 1997, extends the 1985 Agreement to December 31, 1999.

In light of the importance of our fisheries relationship with the Republic of Poland, I urge that the Congress give favorable consideration to this Agreement at an early date.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 5, 1998.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1996—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 94

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 Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to present to you the 1996 annual report of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the Federal agency charged with fostering scholarship and enriching the ideas and wisdom born of the humanities. The agency supports an impressive range of projects encompassing the worlds of history, literature, philosophy, and culture. Through these projects, Americans of all walks of life are able to explore and share in the uniqueness of our Nation's democratic experience.

The activities of the NEH touch tens of millions of our citizens—from the youngest students to the most veteran professors, to men and women who simply strive for a greater appreciation of our Nation's past, present, and future. The NEH has supported projects as diverse as the widely viewed documentary, *The West*, and research as specialized as that conducted on the Dakota Tribe. Small historical societies have received support, as have some of the Nation's largest cultural institutions.

Throughout our history, the humanities have provided Americans with the knowledge, insights, and perspectives needed to move ourselves and our civilization forward. Today, the NEH remains vitally important to promoting our Nation's culture. Not only does its work continue to add immeasurably to our civic life, it strengthens the democratic spirit so essential to our country and our world on the eve of a new century.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 5, 1998.

REPORT OF THE COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 95

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 Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by the provisions of section 13, Public Law 806, 80th Congress (15 U.S.C. 714k), I transmit herewith the report of the Commodity Credit Corporation for fiscal year 1995.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 5, 1998.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House having proceeded to reconsider the bill (H.R. 2631) disapproving the cancellations transmitted by President on October 6, 1997, regarding Public Law 105-45, returned by the President of the United States with his objections, to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, it was resolved, that the said bill, pass, two-thirds of the House of Representatives agreeing to pass the same.

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-3932. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of three rules received on January 27, 1997; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-3933. A communication from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the sequestration preview report for fiscal year 1999; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, to the Committee on the Budget, and to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3934. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on February 3, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3935. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on January 27, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3936. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on February 2, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3937. A communication from the Secretary of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on February 2, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S. 1617. A bill for the relief of Jesus M. Collado-Munoz; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. FRIST, Mr. REED, and Mr. BRYAN):

S. 1618. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to improve the protection of consumers against "slamming" by telecommunications carriers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. COATS, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1619. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to study systems for filtering or blocking matter on the Internet, to require the installation of such a system on computers in schools and libraries with Internet access, and for other purposes; 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:

By Mr. ROTH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. LUGAR):

S. Res. 174. A resolution to state the sense of the Senate that Thailand is a key partner and friend of the United States, has committed itself to executing its responsibilities under its arrangements with the International Monetary Fund, and that the United States should be prepared to take appropriate steps to ensure continued close bilateral relations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. ROBB:

S. Res. 175. A bill to designate the week of May 3, 1998 as "National Correctional Officers and Employees Week."; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S. 1617. A bill for the relief of Jesus M. Collado-Munoz; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PRIVATE RELIEF LEGISLATION

Mr. MOYNIHAN. On September 28, 1996, the Senate passed the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, a 749-page bill with 24 separate titles. Included in that unwieldy legislation was the Illegal Immigration and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, a far-reaching measure designed to curtail illegal immigration and prevent criminals from entering our country. This legislation, hurried to passage in the final days of a legislative session, has proven to be overly punitive in a number of cases, including that of Jesus Collado.

On April 7, Jesus Collado, a 43-year-old legal resident of the United States, returned to this country after vacationing in the Dominican Republic, his homeland. Upon arrival at John F. Kennedy airport in New York, Mr. Collado was detained by INS officers who kept him handcuffed and made him sit on the floor of a room in the

airport for nearly 24 hours. INS officials had determined Mr. Collado excludable because the Illegal Immigration and Immigrant Responsibility Act made the misdemeanor on his criminal record a deportable offense. Twenty-three years ago, when Mr. Collado was 19-years old, he was convicted of a class A misdemeanor, having sexual relations with a minor, his 15-year-old girlfriend. I should note here that their relationship was a consensual one. Mr. Collado was sentenced to a year's probation, which he served. He has not been in trouble with the law since.

Whatever I or my colleagues think about his teenage indiscretion, the fact remains that he is not a serious criminal who should be excluded from entering the United States. Yet, as I mentioned, on April 7 last, Mr. Collado was arrested upon arrival in New York and was held without bail for 201 days at the INS Detention Facility at the York County Prison in York, Pennsylvania.

The Illegal Immigration and Immigrant Responsibility Act was meant to keep serious criminals out of the United States. It was not meant to exclude those who have resided here legally for a quarter century because of a misdemeanor committed as a teenager. Might I add that LAMAR SMITH, the chairman of the House Immigration Subcommittee seems to agree with me. In Anthony Lewis' December 22, 1997 column in the New York Times, Mr. SMITH remarked that Jesus Collado's case "obviously tugs at your heart. Clearly this is an instance where humanitarian considerations should be taken into account. I believe in redemption and I believe it should be granted generously."

Ultimately, the Immigration and Naturalization Service must be given discretion in the implementation of this Act. But Mr. Collado and his family need relief now. Today I am introducing private relief legislation for Mr. Collado to establish that his misdemeanor is not grounds for inadmissibility, deportation or denial of citizenship. Representative NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, who has worked tirelessly on Mr. Collado's behalf, has introduced a similar measure in the House of Representatives. I urge the Senate to act on this matter swiftly so that the Collado family may get on with their lives.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill and Anthony Lewis' column be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was order to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1617

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WAIVER OF CONSIDERATION OF CRIMINAL OFFENSE FOR IMMIGRATION PURPOSES FOR JESUS M. COLLADO-MUNOZ.

Notwithstanding sections 212(a) and 237(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Jesus M. Collado-Munoz shall not be consid-

ered, by reason of the criminal offense to which he pleaded guilty on October 24, 1974, to be inadmissible to, or deportable from, the United States. The offense shall not be used to find that Jesus M. Collado-Munoz lacks good moral character for any purpose under that Act, including eligibility for naturalization.

[From the New York Times, Dec. 22, 1997]

A GENEROUS COUNTRY

(By Anthony Lewis)

WASHINGTON.—The immigration law passed by Congress in 1996 has had harsh effects on some individuals: visitors barred at our borders, aliens marked for deportation after living here legally for many years. I discussed the issues with the principal House sponsor of the law, Representative Lamar S. Smith, Republican of Texas.

"America should continue to be the most generous country in the world toward immigrants," Mr. Smith said, "I thing they have much to contribute to this country."

The 1996 act, he said, was designed to deal with people who do not deserve to be here, such as those who enter illegally. But it was not intended to deny anyone fair treatment.

"There is not excuse for anybody being treated unjustly," he said "Justice is one of the things that makes this country great, and rightly attracts people here, along with economic opportunity and freedom."

What about instances, I asked, where the Immigration and Naturalization Service has admitted that its officers mistreated individuals at the border? The Commissioner of Immigration, Doris Messner, has said that about several cases described in this column in recent months.

"It's not the fault of the law," Mr. Smith replied. "It's the fault of the I.N.S."

"When you have hundreds of millions of entries every year, and you have human nature involved, there are inevitably going to be some lapses. That doesn't excuse them, I hope it won't be interpreted as rationalizing any kind of insensitivity. It is simply a comment on what is a fact of life."

One provision of the 1996 act, called "expedited removal," allows I.N.S. agents to keep out anyone they think is trying to enter the country improperly, even if the person has a U.S. visa, and bar him for five years. I asked whether that, didn't encourage hasty, sometimes unfair decisions.

Mr. Smith said he had been to two border checkpoints in the last several months and found the border patrol agents "enthusiastic" about the provision. "I think on the whole it's reducing the abuses," he said, "the gaming of the system."

The new law's process for dealing with applicants for political asylum is also working well, he said. It requires someone who claims to be fleeing persecution first to persuade an asylum officer at the border that he or she has a "credible fear," then to have an asylum hearing before an immigration judge.

"The asylum officers are getting some good training," Mr. Smith said. "Almost 90 percent of people asking for asylum are being found to have a credible fear. When you have that high a level of initial acceptance of their claims, clearly the officers are giving people the benefit of the doubt."

Since it was human nature for the I.N.S. to make some mistakes, I asked, why had the new statute in many areas stripped away the right to judicial review of the agency's decisions?

"Judicial review," he said, "encouraged many of the people who are in this country illegally" by allowing them to contest their deportation endlessly. He said there were about five million, with the number growing by 300,000 a year.

The 1996 law also made legal immigrants deportable because of minor crimes committed years ago, and removed their right to