

shaped the direction and progress of this great country.

In my own state of South Dakota, women of the plains have a long history of facing challenges with self-reliance and fortitude. Courageous women pioneers worked alongside fathers, husbands, and brothers to clear land, build homesteads, and establish schools, businesses and towns. In 1998, the women of South Dakota continue to build upon the legacy left by their foremothers of strong families and a better life for future generations.

Sadly, we lost one such woman this year. But the spirit of Sister Maurice Crowley of Aberdeen, South Dakota will remain alive in the hearts of all who knew her. Her legacy of laughter, joy and a lifelong commitment to education continues on in those whose lives she touched. As one of her first grade students more than forty years ago, I am one of those people.

Sister Crowley was an incredible human being blessed with great warmth, sharp wit and Irish charm. With characteristic humor Sister Maurice Crowley used to joke, God created Adam, stepped back, took a look, and said, "I can do better than that." Man or woman, we all benefit when we pay respect and honor those who make a difference in others' lives. It is with great respect and admiration that I pay personal tribute to Sister Maurice Crowley during Women's History Month.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, March 30, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,545,895,416,499.33 (Five trillion, five hundred forty-five billion, eight hundred ninety-five million, four hundred sixteen thousand, four hundred ninety-nine dollars and thirty-three cents).

Five years ago, March 30, 1993, the federal debt stood at \$4,225,653,000,000 (Four trillion, two hundred twenty-five billion, six hundred fifty-three million).

Ten years ago, March 30, 1988, the federal debt stood at \$2,487,434,000,000 (Two trillion, four hundred eighty-seven billion, four hundred thirty-four million).

Fifteen years ago, March 30, 1983, the federal debt stood at \$1,235,145,000,000 (One trillion, two hundred thirty-five billion, one hundred forty-five million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,310,750,416,499.33 (Four trillion, three hundred ten billion, seven hundred fifty million, four hundred sixteen thousand, four hundred ninety-nine dollars and thirty-three cents) during the past 15 years.

#### MR. DONNEE GRAY

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, last night millions of people across the country sat in their living rooms and at friends' houses, transfixed to the television sets as the Kentucky Wildcats

became the NCAA national basketball champions. One of our very own, an employee of the United States Senate, Mr. Donnee Gray, was at that game—not as a player or as a spectator, but as an official.

Mr. Gray has worked in the Senate Library for 22 years, diligently helping Senate staffs with legislative and legal research. His expertise is well known and respected.

For more than a decade, Mr. Gray also has been officiating basketball games at various levels of competition—from Olympic and international tournaments to NCAA Division I college games. During the past several years, Mr. Gray has been honored by the NCAA by being chosen to officiate the first round of the tournament. This year, Mr. Gray's involvement in March Madness began with the first round, continued in the Sweet Sixteen round and culminated last night in the final game. The NCAA's selection of Mr. Gray exemplifies his judgment and integrity, as well as his superior knowledge of the game and its rules.

This really is a remarkable achievement by a remarkable and talented young man. We are proud of Mr. Gray and congratulate him on his selection as an official in the national championship NCAA basketball game. We also thank him for his outstanding work here in the United States Senate.

#### NOMINATION OF JAMES C. HORMEL AS AMBASSADOR TO LUXEMBOURG

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I urge the Majority Leader to schedule a vote on the nomination of James Hormel as U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg.

Jim Hormel is a man of outstanding qualifications with a clear and deep commitment to public service, the promotion of human rights, and the national interests of the United States. America would be well served to have a leader of his high caliber representing this country in Luxembourg.

On the international level, he has recently completed his term as Alternate Representative of the U.S. Delegation to the 51st Session of the United Nations General Assembly. He was confirmed by the Senate for that position in 1997. He was also a member of the U.S. Delegation to the United Nations Human Rights Commission. In 1995 he participated in President Clinton's Conference on the Pacific Rim.

Jim Hormel is a talented lawyer who has shown his commitment to public service by establishing the James C. Hormel Public Service Program at the University of Chicago. This program is designed to encourage law students to enter careers in public service.

Jim Hormel is also a dedicated and energetic community activist. He was instrumental in developing resources for organizations serving people affected by HIV and AIDS, and he serves on the board of directors of the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

Recently, he was honored by Breast Cancer Action for his leadership of the Men's Campaign Against Breast Cancer. He has also been a leader for human rights in his capacity as a director of the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

Jim Hormel is also a renowned philanthropist, and he has supported an impressively diverse array of causes, including the American Indian College Fund, the United Negro College Fund, Jewish Family and Children's Services, the Catholic Youth Organization, the NAACP, the San Francisco Symphony, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the San Francisco Public Library, the San Francisco Ballet, and the Virginia Institute of Autism.

It was entirely fitting that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee overwhelmingly approved his nomination last November. At the time, no Senator spoke in opposition. Only after the meeting did two Senators ask to be recorded against the nomination.

I share the concern expressed by other strong supporters of this nomination that action on Jim Hormel's confirmation is being delayed because he is gay. Delay on that basis would be irresponsible and unacceptable. Prejudice based on sexual orientation should have no place in this debate, no place in the Senate, and no place in America.

It is long past time for the Senate to vote on this nomination. Jim Hormel will be an excellent ambassador for the United States, and deserves to be confirmed as soon as possible.

#### 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 the Judiciary.

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

#### REPORTS CONCERNING B-2 BOMBERS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 116

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 Armed Services.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1998, Public Law 105-56 (1997), and section 131 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998, Public Law 105-85 (1997), I certify to the Congress that no additional B-2 bombers should be procured during this fiscal year.

After considering the recommendations of the Panel to Review Long-Range Air Power and the advice of the Secretary of Defense, I have decided that the \$331 million authorized and appropriated for B-2 bombers in Fiscal year 1998 will be applied as follows: \$174 million will be applied toward completing the planned Fiscal Year 1998 baseline modification and repair program and \$157 million will be applied toward further upgrades to improve the deployability, survivability, and maintainability of the current B-2 fleet. Using the funds in this manner will ensure successful completion of the baseline modification and repair program and further enhance the operational combat readiness of the B-2 fleet.

The Panel to Review Long-Range Air Power also provided several far-reaching recommendations for fully exploiting the potential of the current B-1, B-2, and B-52 bomber force, and for upgrading and sustaining the bomber force for the longer term. These longer term recommendations warrant careful review as the Department of Defense prepares its Fiscal Year 2000-2006 Future Years Defense Program.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON,

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 31, 1998.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, has announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 34. An act to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit individuals who are not citizens of the United States from making contributions or expenditures in connection with an election for Federal office.

H.R. 2186. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, Wyoming.

H.R. 2786. An act to authorize additional appropriations for the Department of Defense for ballistic missile defenses and other measures to counter the emerging threat posed to the United States and its allies in the Middle East and Persian Gulf region by the development and deployment of ballistic missiles by Iran.

H.R. 3113. An act to reauthorize the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994.

H.R. 3301. An act to amend chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code, to allow the Secretary of the Treasury greater discretion with regard to the placement of the required inscriptions on quarter dollars issued under the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program.

H.R. 3582. An act to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to expedite the reporting of information to the Federal Election Commission, to expand the type of information required to be reported to the Commission, to provide the effective enforcement of campaign laws by the Commission, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 750. An act to consolidate certain mineral interests in the National Grasslands in Billings County, North Dakota, through the

exchange of Federal and private mineral interests to enhance land management capabilities and environmental and wildlife protection, and for other purposes.

At 4:54 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, has announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3579. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 34. An act to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit individuals who are not citizens of the United States from making contributions or expenditures in connection with an election for Federal office; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

H.R. 2186. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, Wyoming; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2786. An act to authorize additional appropriations for the Department of Defense for ballistic missile defenses and other measures to counter the emerging threat posed to the United States and its allies in the Middle East and Persian Gulf region by the development and deployment of ballistic missiles by Iran; to the Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 3113. An act to reauthorize the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 3582. An act to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to expedite the reporting of information to the Federal Election Commission, to expand the type of information required to be reported to the Commission, to provide the effective enforcement of campaign laws by the Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

#### 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-4458. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4459. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Prison Industries, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for the calendar year 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4460. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Drug Testing, Intervention and Trafficking Reduction Within Prisons Act of 1998"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4461. A communication from the Chairman of Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to

law, the report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-4462. A communication from the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Federal Meat and Poultry Employees Pay Act of 1998"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-4463. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4464. A communication from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4465. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Ruling 98:20 received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4466. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Procedure 98:27 received on March 30, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4467. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of three rules received on March 26, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4468. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emission Standards for Locomotives and Locomotive Engines"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4469. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of twelve notices of proposed issuances of export licenses; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4470. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Memorandum of Justification relative to the Government of Georgia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4471. A communication from the Secretary of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of voting practices at the United Nations for the calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4472. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4473. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the U.S. Government voluntary contributions to international organizations for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4474. A communication from the Comptroller of the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the AV-8B aircraft programs; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4475. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement (Acquisition and Technology), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law,