

2006 Budget Request of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and NOAA. Testimony was heard from VADM Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., (Ret.), Under Secretary, Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA, Department of Commerce; and Steven A. Williams, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

OVERSIGHT—AGENCY BUDGET BUDGETS AND PRIORITIES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held an oversight hearing on Agency Budgets and Priorities for Fiscal Year 2006, with emphasis on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the TVA, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: John Paul Woodley, Jr., Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary (Civil Works); and LTG Carl A. Strock, USA, Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Glenn L. McCullough, Jr., Chairman, TVA; Albert S. Jacquez, Administrator, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, Department of Transportation; and a public witness.

BUDGET BRIEFING AND HEARING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to continue hearings on the Budget. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Prior to the hearing, the Committee met in executive session to receive a briefing on the Budget. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

MIDDLE EAST DEMOCRACY

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): On Wednesday, March 9, 2005, Commission concluded a hearing to examine the Russian-Syrian connection and threats to democracy in the Middle East and the great OSCE region, after receiving testimony from Senator Sam Brownback; Representatives Christopher H. Smith and Benjamin

L. Cardin; Walid Phares, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, on behalf of the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies; Farid N. Ghadry, Reform Party of Syria, Ilan Berman, American Foreign Policy Council, and Steven Emerson, The Investigative Project, all of Washington, D.C.; and Entifadh K. Qanbar, United Iraqi Alliance, Baghdad, Iraq.

LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine legislative presentations of certain veterans organizations, after receiving testimony from Robert N. Lichtenberger, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Springfield, Virginia; Randy L. Pleva, Sr., Paralyzed Veterans of America, Louis Abramson, Jewish War Veterans, and Neil Appleby, Blinded Veterans Association, all of Washington, D.C.; and H. Gene Overstreet, Non-Commissioned Officers Association, San Antonio, Texas.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of R. Nicholas Burns, of Massachusetts, to be an Under Secretary of State, C. David Welch, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be an Assistant Secretary of State, and John B. Bellinger, of Virginia, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Science, The Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and Related Agencies, on the NSF; National Science Board; and Office of Science and Technology Policy, 10 a.m., and on the SEC, 12 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, hearing entitled "Getting the Lead Out: The Ongoing Quest for Safe Drinking Water in the Nation's Capital," 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.