On December 16, Margaret Mead would have celebrated her 100th birthday. As one of New York's Senators, I am proud that Margaret Mead called New York home for so many years. New York State has such a rich history of women who have made a difference at home and throughout the world.

As my colleague Senator CHUCK HAGEL stated so well, Margaret Mead ''was an American patriot who dedicated her life to understanding the people and nations of our world. She respected the distinctiveness of various cultures . . . Margaret Mead took her responsibilities of citizenship seriously by sharing her knowledge with those engaged in public service.''

On the occasion of the Margaret Mead centennial, I hope that more of today's youth will be exposed to the lifework of this great woman, and will be inspired to learn about cultures around the world. She devoted her life to studying other cultures, and to encouraging Americans to develop a desire to learn about other cultures.

The following excerpt from a Mead Centennial 2001 press release captures Margaret Mead's accomplishments, and their relevance to our country today:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARGARET MEAD: IN THE 21ST CENTURY HER IDEAS RING TRUE

''How to describe Margaret Mead? Physically, she was short and pudgy, walked with a light, firm step, wore a distinctive cape and carried a tall, forked walking stick. As an American icon, anthropologist, futurologist, environmentalist, feminist, curmudgeon, and 'grandmother to the world,' she stood for many different things in people's mind. Above all she stood for the need for Americans to understand other cultures. Since September 11, it has become clear that this is an idea that urgently needs to be reinforced.

As a young scientist, Mead traveled to Samoa, New Guinea, and Bali in the 1920s and '30s to study more 'primitive' societies, wanting to see what she, as an American and a westerner, could learn from cultures that were so different from our own. Mead's theories about adolescence, sexuality, aggression, gender roles, and education opened up new ways of thinking about our own society. In later years, she studied more contemporary cultures, but always with an eye toward learning about how better to understand ourselves and to interact in what was rapidly becoming a multicultural world. Mead's ideas and thoughts are inextricably interwoven in our fabric today, many decades after her first studies of cultures, and nearly a quarter century after her death. While some still attract lively controversy, many of the concepts we take for granted today in any discussion of cultural difference, community, peace, gender, or human rights—were brought to the forefront by Mead in the '30s, '40s, and '50s.

More than thirty books, dozens of films, and thousands of articles later, her ideas continue to thrive and inspire. Her famous admonition, 'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world,' has become the motto of hundreds of community action groups. For the Centennial, more than a dozen of her books have been reissued with new and timely introductions. Many organizations and individuals across this country and around the world are taking time to remember Mead and reacquaint themselves with what she stood for, her work, and its implications for the future. The Institute for Intercultural Studies (IIS), founded by Mead in 1944, continues under the guidance of Mary Catherine Bateson, author, cultural anthropologist and Mead's only child. The Institute's mission, an increasingly important one, is to advance knowledge by creating and funding projects that are likely to affect contemporary intercultural and international relations. The IIS maintains a website, www.mead2001.org.

'If my mother were alive today, I know she would be on-line, using the internet to communicate rapidly, to gather and discuss ideas, to bring people together,' says Bateson. 'It is the continued interchange around her ideas that we hope to foster in commemorating her 100th birthday.' Happy birthday, Margaret Mead—and let intercultural and international understanding reign in this new century.''●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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.)

REPORT ON AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ACTIVITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 62

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 Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit this report on the Nation's achievements in aeronautics and space during Fiscal Year (FY) 2000, as required under section 206 of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2476). Aeronautics and space activities involved 11 contributing departments and agencies of the Federal Government, and the results of their ongoing research and development affect the Nation in many ways.

A wide variety of aeronautics and space developments took place during FY 2000. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) successfully completed four Space shuttle flights. In terms of robotic space flights, there were 24 U.S. expendable launch vehicle launches in FY 2000. Five of these launches were NASA-managed missions, nine were Department of Defense (DOD)—managed missions, and eight were FAA-licensed commercial launches. In addition, NASA flew on payload as a secondary payload on one of the FAA licensed commercial launches. This year, two new launch vehicles debuted: the Lockheed Martin Atlas IIIA and the Boeing Delta III, each serving as transition vehicles leading the way for the new generation of evolved expendable launch vehicles.

Scientists also made some dramatic new discoveries in various space-related fields such as space science, Earth science and remote sensing, and life and microgravity science. In aerospace, achievements included the demonstration of technologies that will reduce the environmental impact of aircraft operations, reinvigorate the general aviation industry, improve the safety and efficiency of U.S. commercial airlines and air traffic control system, and reduce the future cost of access to space.

The United States also entered into many new agreements for cooperation with its international partners around the world in many areas of space activity.

Thus, FY 2000 was a very successful one for U.S. aeronautics and space programs. Efforts in their areas have contributed significantly to the Nation's scientific and technical knowledge, international cooperation, a healthier environment, and a more competitive economy.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *December 19, 2001*.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 107. An act to require that the Secretary of the Interior conduct a study to identify sites and resources, to recommend alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the Cold War, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2187. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, to make receipts collected from mineral leasing activities on certain naval oil shale reserves available to cover environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance cots incurred by the United States with respect to the reserves; to the Committee on Armed Services.