

role as a staunch advocate of legislative initiatives to maintain readiness and improve the quality of life for all members of the uniformed service community—active, reserve, and retired, plus their families and survivors.

General Nelson has been a key supporter of the Armed Services Committee's efforts to improve long-term retention and readiness through a competitive compensation and retirement package for active and reserve forces, restoration of lifetime health care and fair disability treatment for retired personnel and their families, and enhancing protections for the survivors of deceased service members. Guided by his personal leadership efforts, TROA has been an invaluable source of information in the committee's deliberations on a long list of compensation and benefits issues during this extraordinarily productive period.

General Nelson's long and exceptionally distinguished career of leadership and personal dedication to protecting our Nation and those who serve in our armed forces is an inspiration to all who care about maintaining a strong national defense. Our very best wishes go with him for long life, well-earned happiness, and continued success in service to his nation and the uniformed service members whom he has so admirably led and served.

As a former Sailor and Marine, I offer General Nelson a grateful and heartfelt salute.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, 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 6:31 p.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. 3214. An act to amend the charter of the AMVETS organizations.

H.R. 3482. An act to provide greater cybersecurity.

H.R. 3838. An act to amend the charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States organization to make members of the armed forces who receive special pay for duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger eligible for membership in the organization, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3988. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to clarify the requirements for eligibility in the American Legion.

H.R. 4755. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 204 South Broad Street in Lancaster, Ohio, as the "Clarence Miller Post Office Building".

H.R. 4807. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the property in Cecil County, Maryland, known as Garrett Island for inclusion in the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 408. Concurrent resolution honoring the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and its accredited member institutions for their continued service to animal welfare, conservation education, conservation research, and wildlife conservation programs.

H. Con. Res. 413. Concurrent resolution honoring the invention of modern air-conditioning by Dr. Willis H. Carrier on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3214. An act to amend the charter of the AMVETS organization; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3482. An act to provide greater cybersecurity; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3838. An act to amend the charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States organization to make members of the armed forces who receive special pay for duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger eligible for membership in the organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3988. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to clarify the requirements for eligibility in the American Legion; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 4755. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 204 South Broad Street in Lancaster, Ohio, as the "Clarence Miller Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4807. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the property in Cecil County, Maryland, known as Garrett Island for inclusion in the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 408. Concurrent resolution honoring the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and its accredited member institutions for their continued service to animal welfare, conservation education, conservation research, and wildlife conservation programs; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H. Con. Res. 413. Concurrent resolution honoring the invention of modern air-conditioning by Dr. Willis H. Carrier on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a medicare

voluntary prescription drug delivery program under the medicare program, to modernize the medicare program, and for other purposes.

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-7898. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2001 Annual Uranium Industry Report; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7899. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "New Mexico Regulatory Program" (NM-042-FOR) received on July 10, 2002; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7900. A communication from the General Counsel, National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule to Revise National Science Foundation's Misconduct in Science and Engineering Regulations at 45 CFR Part 689" (RIN3145-AA39) received on June 26, 2002; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7901. A communication from the Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Child and Adult Care Food Program: Implementing Legislative Reforms to Strengthen Program Integrity" (RIN0584-AC94) received on July 3, 2002; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7902. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Housing Assistance for Native Hawaiians; Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant Program and Loan Guarantees for Native Hawaiian Housing" (RIN2577-AC27) received on July 9, 2002; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-7903. A communication from the Associate Deputy Administrator for Government Contracting and Business Development, Small Business Administration, transmitting, the report of a delay in submitting the Minority Small Business and Capitol Ownership Development Report for Fiscal Year 2001; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-7904. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report with respect to the recommendations contained in the report of the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7905. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, General Accounting Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) employees who were assigned to congressional committees during Fiscal Year 2001; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-7906. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, Employment Service, Staffing and Restructuring Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Career Transition Assistance for Surplus and Displaced