

Auburn University, where he graduated in 1962. The items he has assembled over his lifetime represent a broad range of our country and Alabama's history, and the exhibit represents the finest items in the Vick collection. On display is a vast assortment of historic American and international postal stamps, marks, and correspondence, and includes letters from Confederate Marine Corps Lt. Edward Crenshaw of Butler County and Raphael Semmes, captain of the C.S.S. *Alabama*. These items, numbering in the thousands, will be invaluable to researchers for years to come.

This exhibit is currently being displayed in the Special Collections and Archives Department of the Ralph Brown Draughon Library, and is a fantastic showcase of both the generosity of the Vicks and their love for Auburn University. I encourage anyone with an interest in the history of Alabama to visit the exhibition. Again, I thank John and Faye for their kind gift to Auburn University and the people of Alabama.●

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL WILLIE J. WILLIAMS, JR.

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Lt. Gen. Willie Williams for his exceptional service to our Nation of over 39 years in the military and to congratulate him on his retirement tomorrow from the U.S. Marine Corps.

General Williams has had nearly four decades of distinguished and honorable service to our Nation's defense. He joined the Marine Corps with a commission in 1974 from the Platoon Leaders Course after receiving his bachelor of arts degree in business administration from Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, AL. He started out as a supply officer with 11th Marines, an artillery regiment, but would go on to serve in numerous command and staff positions throughout his exemplary career in the Marine Corps.

In the late 1980s, near the end of the Iran-Iraq war, General Williams was handpicked to lead the logistics element in the Marine air-ground task force that was a part of Operation Earnest Will, the mission to escort and protect oil tankers in the Persian Gulf. Lessons learned from that operation laid the foundation for how the corps would approach resupply into the region during the first Persian Gulf war and later during the occupation of Iraq.

General Williams once said that the assignment during the Iran-Iraq war defined him as an "operational logistician." He then went on to command the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's Service Support Group followed by Brigade Service Support Group 1, both during the mid-1990s. Then, after serving a year as the commanding general of Camp Butler in Okinawa, General Williams took command of 3rd Force Service Support Group in 2001.

From there, he was selected for the top job at Marine Corps Logistics Com-

mand in Albany, GA, a hub for the service's worldwide supply chain and equipment maintenance efforts. This hub helped with the logistical operation for as many as 25,000 Marines in Iraq's Anbar province at the time of his command.

For his last assignment, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, then Gen. James T. Conway, called General Williams back to Washington in 2009 to become the director of Marine Corps Staff. He was appointed by President Obama and pinned on his third star, placing him among the select group of only 16 lieutenant generals in the Marine Corps. In this new capacity, General Williams was the principal assistant and advisor to the Commandant and Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. Additionally, General Williams also maintained influential communication with his counterparts in the Army, Navy and Air Force for the crucial advancement of the Corps' point of view on matters in which all have vested interest.

General Williams embodies everything that it means to be a U.S. Marine. The time he has spent in the Marine Corps has not only had a great impact on the institution, but he also helped professionally develop countless marines over his nearly 40 years of selfless service. Through his example, those marines have come to know and appreciate that only by sacrifice will the freedoms of others, with honor, courage and commitment be secured.

Furthermore, General Williams has been a tremendous asset to me and my staff. He was a reliable source of information and advice in resolving a number of issues that affected Alabama. I got to know him then and to learn of his love for his home State and for her people. I will miss his guidance and leadership with the Marine Corps, but am very thankful that he will be bringing his considerable talents to Huntsville, AL.

On behalf of the State of Alabama and the U.S. Senate, I congratulate Lt. General Willie J. Williams on his retirement from the U.S. Marine Corps and wish General Williams only the best as he takes off the uniform and begins a new chapter in his life of service in Huntsville.●

REMEMBERING DANIEL JOHN MEADOR

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute today to Daniel John Meador, who was born in 1926 in Selma, AL. Mr. Meador attended the Citadel and graduated from Auburn University and the University of Alabama Law School, and received a master of laws from Harvard Law School in 1954. He served in the U.S. Army, first in artillery, then in the Judge Advocate General's Corps in Korea during that conflict. Following the war, he returned to the United States and served as a law clerk to Justice Hugo L. Black of Alabama, then on the U.S. Supreme

Court. He practiced law in Birmingham, AL, for a short time before joining the faculty at the University of Virginia. In 1965-66 he was a Fulbright lecturer in England, and from 1966 to 1970 was the dean of the University of Alabama, School of Law, departing just as I was starting law school there. In 1970, he rejoined the University of Virginia law faculty as James Monroe Professor of Law, a position he held until his retirement in 1994. At the University of Alabama, he was a true reformer who wanted the school to be one of national stature. He also was a strong and principled leader for racial progress during those difficult times of discord. We can take pride in the fact that his work paved the way for the school to be one of the very best public law schools in America.

Dean Meador's major professional interest was the State and Federal appellate courts, and he was involved in numerous projects and studies designed to strengthen and improve them. From 1971 to 1975, he served on the Advisory Council for Appellate Justice and in 1977-79 he was an assistant attorney general in the Department of Justice where, at the request of Attorney General Griffin Bell, he organized a new office in the Department—the Office for Improvements in the Administration of Justice. Its mission was to identify problems in the Federal and State courts and develop solutions. In addition, he served on numerous boards and committees working to further improve the Court system in our Nation. He was a good writer. I enjoyed his novel, *His Father's House*, set in Marengo County, Alabama, and Germany.

Few lawyers have been held in higher esteem, or have received more honors, or participated in more projects for the betterment of the profession than Dean Meador. While Alabama has perhaps produced a few lawyers better known than Dean Meador, few have given more brilliant and sustained service in so many ways to the nurturing and development of the law and the courts than he. The great American rule of law system was enriched by him throughout his life.

He is best remembered by those who knew him as a masterful teacher with a passion for history, friends and family. He leaves behind his wife, Alice, brother, three children, and seven grandchildren. They have been given a great legacy indeed. Dean Daniel John Meador was a great Alabama native, one of its greatest servants of the law, and I am honored to be able to pay tribute to his many contributions to education, the law, and the courts.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL RAYMOND REES

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to MG Raymond F. Rees, one of Oregon's most remarkable military leaders. After 51 years of service to our Nation and the State of Oregon, General Rees will retire from the

Oregon National Guard and the U.S. Army next week. I know I speak for Oregonians across the State in thanking him for his service.

General Rees hails from the small eastern Oregon town of Helix, which boasts a proud population of 184. He learned the importance of hard work at an early age, putting in long hours on the family ranch. After graduating from West Point in 1966, he completed airborne and Ranger training, preparing himself for a tour in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division. Upon leaving the active Army, he joined the Oregon National Guard where he commanded at every level, serving both within the State and across the country.

Those who know him were not surprised that General Rees held a number of impressive titles over his long and distinguished career. He served as the director of the Army National Guard, the vice chief of the National Guard Bureau, and as the acting chief of the entire National Guard. He also served as the chief of staff for U.S. Northern Command and the North American Aerospace Defense Command at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado. This month, he steps down as Oregon's Adjutant General, a job he held twice before. In fact, General Rees is the longest serving Adjutant General in the United States, with over 17 years of service to four different Oregon Governors.

General Rees has always been a champion of the Guard, both locally and nationally. Policy decisions he helped shape in the early 1990s enabled the National Guard to better respond after the horrible attacks of September 11, 2001. Under his leadership, the Oregon Guard deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq. And Oregon units were able to respond rapidly in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, sending nearly 2,000 servicemembers within 72 hours.

Nobody worked harder to strengthen the synergy between the Guard and communities across our State than General Rees, or to make sure that our returning men and women receive the vital services they earned. He helped establish the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program, providing critical, sustaining support for Guardsmen and their families before, during, and after deployments. He led modernization efforts across Oregon, providing Guardsmen with the best equipment and facilities. He opened or improved projects across the State, including readiness centers in Pendleton, La Grande, Hermiston, Klamath Falls, Ontario, The Dalles, St. Helens, Clackamas, Gresham, Dallas and Salem. He was instrumental in helping us sign a new lease for the Portland Air National Guard Base, allowing the Air Guard to train and keep the skies safe along the west coast.

Building bridges between the Guard and foreign militaries is another legacy that General Rees will leave behind, and the Guard's State Partner-

ship Program enjoyed no stronger supporter. Under this initiative, State Guard folks are partnering with more than 60 nations to improve regional and cultural awareness, increase security cooperation, and help prevent threats from emerging. I am proud to say that under General Rees' leadership, Oregon has become one of the few States to partner with two countries simultaneously: Bangladesh and Vietnam.

I could go on and on about the contributions General Rees made on behalf of servicemembers, their families, our citizens, and the State of Oregon. So today I want to join folks across the State and the country to stand and offer our congratulations to General Rees on his distinguished career. Whether as a cavalry troop commander, a cobra gunship pilot, or the Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard, General Rees always shouldered more than his share of the task. We will miss this dedicated soldier, talented leader, and gifted diplomat—but his is a retirement well earned. I commend General Rees for his service to our country, and I want to thank his wife, Mary Len, for her tireless support along the way. After decades of service, I wish Major General Rees a long and relaxing retirement. Well done!●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 1171. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to improve veterans service organizations access to Federal surplus personal property.

H.R. 1341. An act to require the Financial Stability Oversight Council to conduct a study of the likely effects of the differences between the United States and other jurisdictions in implementing the derivatives credit valuation adjustment capital requirement.

H.R. 1564. An act to amend the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 to prohibit the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board from requiring public companies to use specific auditors or require the use of different auditors on a rotating basis.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1171. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to improve veterans service organizations access to Federal surplus personal property; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1341. An act to require the Financial Stability Oversight Council to conduct a study of the likely effects of the differences between the United States and other jurisdictions in implementing the derivatives credit valuation adjustment capital requirement; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1564. An act to amend the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 to prohibit the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board from requiring public companies to use specific auditors or require the use of different auditors on a rotating basis; 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 times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 1270. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for reform of public and private pension plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 234

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 234, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 323

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 323, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for extended months of Medicare coverage of immunosuppressive drugs for kidney transplant patients and other renal dialysis provisions.

S. 325

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 325, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum age for children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program, and for other purposes.

S. 327

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S.