

including the policies and programs which he or she would pursue while in that position. No hearing or meeting to consider the confirmation shall be held until at least 72 hours after the following events have occurred: the nominee has responded to the requirements set forth in subsection (2), and, if a report described in subsection (3) has been prepared, it has been presented to the chairman and ranking member, and is available to other members of the committee, upon request.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING ELIJAH MCCOY

• Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Elijah McCoy in honor of Black History Month. Mr. McCoy was a 19th-century African-American inventor whose innovation was crucial to our modern-day transportation system.

Throughout the month of February, we come together as Michiganders and as Americans to celebrate Black History Month and reflect on the tremendous contributions African Americans have made to our country. African Americans have helped shape and enrich our communities, and their many contributions serve as a constant reminder that diversity is one of our country's greatest strengths.

Elijah McCoy was born in Ontario, Canada, to fugitive slaves who had escaped to Canada through the Underground Railroad. Showing an interest in engineering from a young age, Mr. McCoy traveled to Scotland at the age of 15, where he took an apprenticeship in mechanical engineering. When he returned to the United States, racial barriers prevented him from finding work. Mr. McCoy then became a fireman and oiler for the Michigan Central Railroad. Through this job, he developed his major invention.

Through analyzing the system of oiling axes, Mr. McCoy came up with a lubricating cup that evenly distributed oil over the engine's moving parts. He was granted a patent for his invention, thus allowing trains to run continuously for long periods of time. Railroad engineers came to ask for this equipment by name, requesting "the real McCoy" system—a term used to this day to describe quality and originality. Receiving approximately 60 patents throughout the course of his life, Mr. McCoy later formed the Elijah McCoy Manufacturing Company and changed the course of transportation history. Mr. McCoy is an example of true innovation and ingenuity. Elijah McCoy is buried at the Detroit Memorial Park East in Warren, MI, and it is fitting that we honored his legacy by naming the U.S. Patent and Trademark satellite office in Detroit after him.

As we observe Black History Month, we should take a moment to recognize how far we have come as a nation and yet how far we still have to go as we work together to achieve true equality. The civil rights movement changed the course of our Nation's history for the

better and left a lasting legacy that touches our lives every day. In honor of Black History Month, let us recommit ourselves to the goal of making America a place where anyone who works hard and plays by the rules has the opportunity to succeed. As we continue to work toward equality, we must carry that legacy forward.●

#### TRIBUTE TO GENERAL HANSON SCOTT

• Mr. UDALL. Madam President, in my State of New Mexico, we are proud to be home to some of the finest military bases in the Nation. We are home to White Sands Missile Range, Kirtland Air Force Base, Holloman Air Force Base, and Cannon Air Force Base. New Mexicans have a great heritage of service in the Armed Forces, and our State's military installations play a key role in the Nation's national defense.

Today, I wish to express my thanks, and the thanks of all New Mexicans, to General Hanson Scott, who retired on January 30th, after many years of an illustrious career, both in active military service and in civilian life. He is a son of New Mexico, and a credit to our State.

General Scott is originally from Reserve, NM. He attended New Mexico State University, prior to receiving an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy, from which he graduated in 1961. During his 30 years in the Air Force, he served with great distinction, including as commander of the 463rd Tactical Airlift Wing, Dyess Air Force Base; the 1st Special Operations Wing, Hurlbut Field; and Special Operations Command Pacific, Camp H. M. Smith.

Following his retirement from the Air Force, General Scott continued to lead as the director of the New Mexico Office of Military Base Planning and Support, reporting to the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor. As director, he had the important responsibility of addressing State-level issues in support of New Mexico's military installations and supporting the New Mexico Military Base Planning Commission.

During the last BRAC round, General Scott played a key role in supporting Operation Keep Cannon, as Cannon was saved from closure by determined State and community efforts. I was proud to work with him during this effort. When the BRAC Commission made the decision to place Cannon in enclave status, his team worked hard to ensure that a new mission would be identified for Cannon. As a result, the Air Force Special Operations Command made the decision to locate the 27th Special Operations Wing at Cannon. The wisdom of this decision cannot be denied. Today, pilots from the 27th SOW can take advantage of New Mexico's outstanding airspace as they prepare to carry out the country's national security priorities.

Prior to his appointment as the director of the Office of Military Base

Planning and Support, General Scott was the executive director of the Office for Space Commercialization, New Mexico Economic Development Department, and director of aviation for the city of Albuquerque, NM. He also was a member of the steering committee of the Kirtland Air Force Base Retention Task Force, working with community leaders and the New Mexico congressional delegation in preventing a significant realignment of the base.

General Hanson Scott has led a life of service and commitment. He has proven his dedication to our military and the defense of our Nation time and again. That dedication has required tremendous determination, tireless effort, and, at times, personal sacrifice. It has meant getting up at 3 a.m. to make the roundtrip from Albuquerque to White Sands or Holloman in 1 day. It has meant manning the phones, in all time zones, sometimes while walking his dog Barney. Most of all, throughout his career, it has meant trying to do what is best for New Mexico and for the men and women of our Armed Forces.

It is a privilege to say here today, to General Hanson Scott, thank you. Thank you for a job well done. Thank you for your service. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 7:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 240) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, and ask a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-790. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clothianidin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9919-59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 24, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-791. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the operations of the National Defense Stockpile (NDS) for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-792. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Global Security), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Cooperative Threat Reduction Annual Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2016"; to the Committee on Armed Services.