

Five years ago, March 23, 1993, the federal debt stood at \$4,219,501,000,000 (Four trillion, two hundred nineteen billion, five hundred one million).

Ten years ago, March 23, 1988, the federal debt stood at \$2,481,367,000,000 (Two trillion, four hundred eighty-one billion, three hundred sixty-seven million).

Fifteen years ago, March 23, 1983, the federal debt stood at \$1,229,199,000,000 (One trillion, two hundred twenty-nine billion, one hundred ninety-nine million).

Twenty-five years ago, March 23, 1973, the federal debt stood at \$457,287,000,000 (Four hundred fifty-seven billion, two hundred eighty-seven million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,082,545,909,123.38 (Five trillion, eighty-two billion, five hundred forty-five million, nine hundred nine thousand, one hundred twenty-three dollars and thirty-eight cents) during the past 25 years.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:03 p.m. a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, has announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 758. An act to make certain technical connections to the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

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-4374. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Economic Effects of the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4375. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on Feb-

ruary 26, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4376. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to 1998 salary range structure; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4377. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the performance plan for fiscal year 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4378. A communication from the Chief, Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a cost comparison; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4379. A communication from the Chief, Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a cost comparison; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4380. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to Congressionally-mandated reporting requirements; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4381. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to authorize military construction; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4382. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4383. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Administration and Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule received on February 25, 1998; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4384. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Administration and Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule received on February 25, 1998; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4385. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Administration and Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Extraordinary Contractual Actions to Facilitate the National Defense"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4386. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, notices relative to retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4387. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the numbers of military technician positions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4388. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the DDG-51 program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4389. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to commissary stores; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4390. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to DOD purchases; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4391. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the F-22 aircraft program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4392. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to AGR personnel; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4393. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Manufacturing Technology Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4394. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Research Working Group of the interagency Persian Gulf Veterans' Coordinating Board; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4395. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Joint Demilitarization Technology Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4396. A communication from the Administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 18, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4397. A communication from the General Sales Manager and Vice President of the Commodity Credit Corporation, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 18, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4398. A communication from the Administrator of Rural Development, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule received on March 10, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4399. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule received on February 24, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4400. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of two rules received on March 10, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4401. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 11, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4402. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 20, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4403. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule received on February 25, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4404. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of three rules received on March 3, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4405. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on March 10, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.