

the notion of civilian control of the military; and as a former Deputy Director of Strategy, Plans and Policy, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and plans, he has an appreciation of the strategic, or "bigger", picture. All in all, General Scott came to this job with the credentials and experience that was required of him

During his command as the Chief of Army Legislative Liaison, General Scott put his rich background to work for him and the Army, working hard to represent the interests of the service to the Senate and House of Representatives, as well as working to make sure that the Army was responsive to our requests and interests. Over the past two-years, General Scott helped to shepherd through the Congress major initiatives on Army modernization and digitization. He has been a forceful and effective advocate for the Army's "Force XXI" and its "Force After Next"; and, during my tenure as Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, we worked together to build even stronger ties between the Army and the Senate Armed Services Committee.

I have always believed that hard work will be rewarded, and after what I am certain at times was an agonizing, if not occasionally exasperating, experience of working with Congress, General Scott will soon take the reins of the United States Army Security Assistance Command. This is an important assignment, especially in this day and age when building or re-reinforcing coalitions and friendships with other nations is as important to the security of the United States as maintaining a well equipped, well trained fighting force. In his new job, General Scott will in many ways be carrying out the duties of an ambassador, he will certainly be making an important contribution to the diplomatic efforts of the United States as he will be required to work with approximately 120 different nations and multinational organizations in promoting international security by assuring our allies have access to modern and effective equipment and systems. I have every confidence that he will discharge the duties of his new job with the same ability, dedication, and professionalism as he has done throughout his career, and especially as he did as Chief of Army Legislative Liaison.

I am certain that my colleagues on the Senate Armed Services Committee and throughout the Senate join me in applauding the work of General Scott and in thanking him for his tireless efforts in working with us for the benefit of our Army and soldiers. I look forward to continuing to monitor the career of General Scott, and I predict that he will continue to achieve great things for many years to come.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, September 29, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,645,399,491,050.88 (Five trillion, six hundred forty-five billion, three hundred ninety-nine million, four hundred ninety-one thousand, fifty dollars and eighty-eight cents).

One year ago, September 29, 1998, the Federal debt stood at \$5,523,786,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred twenty-three billion, seven hundred eighty-six million).

Five years ago, September 29, 1994, the Federal debt stood at \$4,669,823,000,000 (Four trillion, six hundred sixty-nine billion, eight hundred twenty-three million).

Ten years ago, September 29, 1989, the Federal debt stood at \$2,857,431,000,000 (Two trillion, eight hundred fifty-seven billion, four hundred thirty-one million) which reflects a doubling of the debt—an increase of almost \$3 trillion—\$2,787,968,491,050.88 (Two trillion, seven hundred eighty-seven billion, nine hundred sixty-eight million, four hundred ninety-one thousand, fifty dollars and eighty-eight cents) during the past 10 years.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11 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. 2506. An act to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research.

H.R. 2559. An act to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers by providing greater access to more affordable risk management tools and improved protection from production and income loss, to improve the efficiency and integrity of the Federal crop insurance program, and for other purposes.

At 6:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Berry, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2981. An act to extend energy conservation programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act through March 31, 2000.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2506. An act to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2559. An act to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers by providing

greater access to more affordable risk management tools and improved protection from production and income loss, to improve the efficiency and integrity of the Federal crop insurance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of the following measure which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. 1515. A bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on September 30, 1999, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 249. An act to provide funding for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, to reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, 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-5459. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Plan for Health Care Services for Gulf War Veterans"; to the Committee on Veteran's Affairs.

EC-5460. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, transmitting a report relative to the proposed "Air Transportation Improvement Act"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5461. A communication from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the tar, nicotine, and carbon monoxide content of the smoke of domestic cigarettes sold in 1996 and 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5462. A communication from the Deputy Executive Secretary, Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Enforcement in Group and Individual Health Insurance Markets (HCFA-2019-IFC)" (RIN0938-AJ48), received September 22, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5463. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice—Labeling of Hard Cider; Treasury Decision—Hard Cider: Postponement of Labeling Compliance Date" (RIN1512-AB71), received September 28, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5464. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled