

has. I am told that the new Panamanian President was planning to visit but, for whatever reason, I am not sure, canceled her trip. I had hoped to have the opportunity to meet with her. Hopefully, we will be able to do that at some point in the future.

I have been informed that, unlike her predecessor, President Moscoso would like to do business with the United States and would like to be above board with the negotiations. I wish her much success. I hope she realizes how important her actions are. It would be nice if some in the State Department and the administration would talk with her and encourage her in the next few weeks and months.

I also hope that it is not too late for her to weigh in on the decision about the leases at Cristobal and Balboa. I realize that would take a lot of political courage for her, but I hope she will give a thorough review of the bidding process, its known irregularities, and its compliance with both the spirit and the letter of the canal and neutrality treaty.

In conclusion, this Law 5 reportedly does the following: It gives responsibility for hiring new pilots for the canal who control the ships passing through the canal. It gives Hutchison Whampoa, the Chinese company, the right to possess Rodman Naval Station when it reverts to Panama this year. It gives the authority to control the order of ships utilizing the entrance to the canal and to deny ships access to the ports and entrances of the canal, if they are deemed to be interfering with Hutchinson's business operations. Contrast this with the explicit grant of expeditious passage in the 1977 treaty, which the Panama Canal treaty gave to the U.S. Navy.

Now we are seeing the Chinese Communists—and there are thousands of Chinese now in Panama. People say: Well, it is private business. There is no private business in China. It is all controlled by the government, whatever they do. So this is government business in China. It is Chinese Communist government in Panama by the Chinese. Law 5 gives the right to transfer unilaterally its rights to a third party to any company or any country they select. This ought to be troublesome, and yet it is not even on the radar screen in the political debates around our country today.

Certain public roads could become private in a hurry, which could impact canal access.

This Hutchison Whampoa deal includes U.S. Naval Station Rodman, as mentioned previously; U.S. Air Station Albrook; Diablo; Balboa, a Pacific U.S.-built port; Cristobal, an Atlantic U.S.-built port; the island of Telfers, strategically located adjacent to Galeto Island, a critical communication center.

Telfers Island is said to be the future home of a Chinese work in progress, an

export zone, called the "Great Wall of China" project.

I cannot understand how we can ignore this presence into the Western Hemisphere. Monroe would turn over in his grave. The Monroe Doctrine said that foreign European nations, and other nations around the world, should stay out of the Western Hemisphere. Yet, here they are.

Law 5 is subservient to the 1977 treaty. But if we fail to notice the discrepancies and fail to act upon those discrepancies, or to point out there are potential compliance problems, then we lose the opportunity to respond.

As I said before, I don't have the easel here now, but it's 84 more days. We will come back next week, and I will come back with the chart and it will be 79 days, or whatever it happens to be. But as each day ticks off, another day goes by—another day we haven't talked to President Moscoso and we haven't tried to reopen the negotiations, and we are another day closer to turning the Panama Canal not over to the Panamanians, but to the Chinese Communists—and not a whimper from anybody in the State Department, or the President, the Defense Department, Presidential campaigns, or anywhere. So the days are getting short. I think that I have an obligation to tell the American people, on a day-to-day basis—remind them—about what is going on.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on October 7, 1999, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 559. An act to designate the Federal building located at 300 East 8th Street in Austin, Texas, as the "J.J. 'Jake' Pickle Federal Building."

#### 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-5528. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Bureau of Investigation, Criminal Justice Information Services Division Systems and Procedures" (RIN1105-AA63), received October 4, 1999; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5529. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Flood Insurance Program; Procedures and Fees for Processing Map Changes; 64 FR 51461; 09/23/99", received September 30, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5530. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5531. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety of Nuclear Explosive Operations" (AL 452.2A), received October 4, 1999; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5532. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Affairs transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Veterans Programs Improvement Act of 1999"; to the Committee on Veteran's Affairs.

EC-5533. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Enrollment-Provision of Hospital and Outpatient Care to Veterans" (RIN2900-AJ18), received October 4, 1999; to the Committee on Veteran's Affairs.

EC-5534. A communication from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 1998 biennial report of the Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5535. A communication from the Commissioner of Social Security transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Civil Monetary Penalty Extension Act of 1999"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5536. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Weighted Average Interest Rate Update" (Notice 99-49), received September 27, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5537. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appeals Customer Service Program" (Announcement 99-98, 1999-412 I.R.B.—, dated October 18, 1999), received October 4, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5538. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Ethalfuralin; Reestablishment of Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL #6383-2), received October 4, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5539. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tebuconazole; Extension of Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL #6386-4), received October 4, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5540. A communication from the Director, Office of Procurement and Property Management, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Agriculture Acquisition Regulation: Part 415 Reorganization; Contracting by Negotiation" (RIN0599-AA07), received September 30, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5541. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting,