

Air Force Reserve Colonel Jerry D. Willoughby
 Army Major General Charles Mahan
 Army Reserve Brigadier General Bruce B. Bingham
 Navy Lieutenant Junior Grade Craig Leaphart
 Navy Lieutenant Commander Bradley S. Russell

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces the following appointment made by the President pro tempore during the sine die adjournment:

Pursuant to provisions of Public Law 106-79, on behalf of the President pro tempore, after consultation with the majority and minority leaders, the appointment of the following Senators to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

The Chair announces the following appointment made by the Democratic leader, the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), during the sine die adjournment:

Pursuant to provisions of Public Law 105-277, on behalf of the Democratic leader, who consulted with the minority leader of the House, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the International Financial Institution Advisory Commission: C. Fred Bergsten, of Virginia, vice Paul A. Volcker, of New York, resigned.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.J. RES. 84

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, there is a joint resolution at the desk which was received earlier from the House of Representatives. I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 84) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes.

Mr. GRAMS. I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the rule, the bill will be read on the next legislative day.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 376

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate withdraw its request of November 19, 1999, for a conference on S. 376, and agree to the conference, with the same conferees previously appointed by the Senate, requested by the House of Representatives on November 10, 1999, which message was transmitted to the Senate on January 24, 2000.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK E. SCHEUERMANN

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I am reminded each time I look to the sky of the reach Americans have made to the heavens. I am extremely proud that every manned spaceflight since the Apollo program has been powered by engines tested at a facility in my home State of Mississippi, the John C. Stennis Space Center. There, a dedicated group of professionals labors largely unheralded to ensure the performance and safety of the engines that propel our astronauts into space. Although I have known many of these outstanding Mississippians in my years in Congress, I only recently had the opportunity to work closely with one of these professionals. The leadership at NASA decided to offer a legislative fellowship to Congress to one of NASA Stennis' rising stars, Mr. Patrick Scheuermann.

Patrick arrived on Capitol Hill in January, 1999, at the beginning of a very busy opening session of the 106th Congress. Although many thought other proceedings that opened the 106th would supercede a legislative agenda, the Senate professional and personal staffs ensured that, in the background, the business of Congress stayed in motion. Patrick cut his teeth in the difficult staff preparations for the legislative cycle that would take place around the issues that dominated the Senate floor. An effort was underway at NASA to reinvigorate manned space flight and to reduce the cost of getting to space. Patrick was assigned to research and report on these initiatives and to keep my legislative staff briefed on their status through the Authorization and Appropriations process.

Patrick approached his assignment with the interest of someone who not only enjoys what he does, but with the infectious enthusiasm that brings others onboard as well. My staff quickly became knowledgeable of the many NASA programs that together form our Nation's efforts to reach space. I found more and more space related meetings on the calendar. As the Session progressed, the Senate led the charge to complete the first NASA Authorization Bill in many years. One hundred million dollars was added to the NASA budget to develop third generation reusable launch vehicle technology, a program known as Spaceliner 100. Patrick's ability to explain the facets of NASA's programs to legislative staffers and his vigilance as changes developed ensured the ultimate success of these endeavors. His detailed understanding of Stennis Space Center's capabilities and assets also proved to be of great value in assessing the facility's potential for commercial activities.

Patrick has a long history with the Space Program. After earning his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of New Orleans, he made his first foray into the world of Rocket Science as a contract test engineer, testing Space Shuttle Main Engines at the Stennis Space Center. This brought him across the "Great Divide" that is the Pearl River and firmly onto Mississippi soil where the NASA hierarchy recognized and recruited the talented young engineer. Although our neighbors across the Pearl claim Patrick as a native son, Mississippians have adopted him for his hard work and strength of character. He also made the grade through his success in attracting one of Greater Picayune's finest, Miss Sarah Melissa Lee to be his bride. Together they have added to Mississippi's fame through their beautiful children, Chandler and Christina. Although I am sorry to lose the talent and expertise that Patrick brought to my staff, I am pleased that his return to the Stennis Space Center foretells many more years of innovation and success at this vital national treasure.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOHN DIMENTO, U.S. NAVY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Naval Officer, Lieutenant Commander John Di Mento, upon his departure from my staff. Lieutenant Commander Di Mento was selected as a Navy Fellow to work in my office because of his professional reputation and his knowledge of the Navy Oceanography program and the military presence in my home state. Not a Mississippian by birth, he earned the respect of Mississippians during his long service in the state from 1990 through 1996, and through his impressive display of good judgement when he married the former Chenaey Bourgeois of Bay Saint Louis. Together they have added to Mississippi's fame through their beautiful daughter, Colby.

Lieutenant Commander Di Mento entered the United States Naval Academy in 1983 and was commissioned as an Ensign upon graduation in 1987. He earned a Master's Degree in Oceanography and began his career as a Naval Oceanographer as the Executive Officer of Oceanographic Unit Three, surveying over 100,000 miles of the ocean floor in a year deployed. He returned from sea and reported to the Naval Oceanographic Office in Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi. He worked extensively in ocean modeling and remote sensing, and flew aerial oceanographic surveys with Oceanographic Development Squadron Eight, in the process earning his Naval Aviation Observer wings. Later assigned as Oceanographer on USS *Kearsarge*, Lieutenant