

apply when science gets to where only science fiction is today.

Mr. Speaker, it is not just is biological engineering capable of engineering intelligence; it is also mechanical engineering. One of my friends has said that perhaps the last decision that will be made by the human race is whether our successors are the products of biological engineering or mechanical Silicon Valley engineering; whether our replacements are carbon-based or silicon-based, because I do not know whether it will be biological engineering that engineers intelligence first, or whether intelligence rivaling our own or perhaps surpassing our own will first come from silicon chips; but the same ethical issues arise.

One can imagine a thinking machine capable of spirituality. I believe there is a book that addresses that issue by that title.

One can imagine a thinking machine smarter than any computer, almost self-aware, some would argue properly used by people, others would say properly embraced as the constitutional equal of human beings. Likewise, it is possible for us through silicon engineering, through computer engineering that some day we will invent machines considerably smarter than us who may or may not regard us as their appropriate peers or masters.

I know this is science fiction, but would it not be wise to spend a few years, and a few, in the minds of a few people a lot smarter than I am trying to figure out what we would do if science begins to offer this as an alternative for human kind?

I can only mention third, nanotechnology, the idea of engineering at the molecular level, at a level where perhaps it would be hard to decide whether what we had engineered was biological or mechanical, or maybe we will see a fusion of biological and mechanical or biological and electronic engineering where a combination of silicon chips and brain cells from human DNA or brain cells from dog DNA are fused together.

I do not want to sound unusual, but the science of the future will be a little unusual. We in this Congress will not do the science, but we in this Congress should make sure that we focus the appropriate societal attention long in advance on the ethical dilemmas that will face us as engineered intelligence either approaches or surpasses our own.

Mr. Speaker, although there would be one benefit of such marvelous engineered intelligence for, perhaps if we had an engineered intelligence massively smarter than myself, maybe we would know what the right course was for the World Bank to take or what the right course was for this Congress to take on the issues I addressed earlier in this speech.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 2345

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DREIER) at 11 o'clock and 45 minutes.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4205, FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr GOSS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-624) on the resolution (H. Res. 504) providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4205) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. WAMP (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. COBURN (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of attending a funeral.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. SKELTON) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MINGE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DUNCAN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HULSHOF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. METCALF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. COLLINS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, on May 24.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KASICH, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 18, 2000, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7660. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Raisins Produced From Grapes Grown in California; Final Free and Reserve Percentages for 1999-2000 Crop Natural (Sun-Dried) Seedless and Zante Currant Raisins [Docket No. FV00-989-4 IFR] received April 12, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7661. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Olives Grown in California; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV00-932-1 FIR] received April 17, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7662. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Transfer and Repurchase of Government Securities [No. 2000-13] received March 27, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7663. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Cardiovascular, Orthopedic, and Physical Medicine Diagnostic Devices; Reclassification of Cardiopulmonary Bypass Accessory Equipment, Goniometer Device, and Electrode Cable Devices [Docket No. 99N-2210] received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7664. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medical Devices; Gastroenterology-Urology Devices; Nonimplanted, Peripheral Electrical Continence Device [Docket No. 00P-1120] received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7665. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medical Devices; Laser Fluorescence Caries Detection Device [Docket No. 00P-1209] received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7666. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA,

Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Hematology and Pathology Devices; Reclassification; Restricted Devices OTC Test Sample Collection Systems for Drugs of Abuse Testing [Docket No. 97N-0135] received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7667. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District [CA095-0234; FRL-6579-3] received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7668. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District [CA095-0234; FRL-6579-3] received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7669. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerators State Plan For Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Idaho [Docket No. ID-02-0001; FRL-6580-6] received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7670. A letter from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Elaine, Arkansas) [MM Docket No. 99-280 RM-9672] (Ringgold, Louisiana) [MM Docket No. 99-281 RM-9684] (Hays, Kansas) [MM Docket No. 99-283 RM-9711] received March 30, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7671. A letter from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Section 73.202(b) Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Princeville, Kapaa, and Kalaheo, Hawaii) [MM Docket No. 99-139, RM-9402, RM-9412] received April 17, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7672. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

7673. A letter from the Acting President, Inter-American Foundation, transmitting the Annual Performance Report for Fiscal Year 1999; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7674. A letter from the Chairman, National Capital Planning Commission, transmitting the FY 1999 Annual Performance Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7675. A letter from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule To List as Endangered the O'ahu 'Elepaio From the Hawaiian Islands and Determination of Whether Designation of Critical Habitat Is Prudent (RIN: 1018-AE51) received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7676. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Adjustments From Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain, OR [Docket No. 990430113-913-01; I.D. 032700C] received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7677. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Trawling in Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat in the Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands [Docket No. 991223349-934901-01; I.D. 021000A] received April 14, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7678. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Trip Limit Adjustments [Docket No. 99123347-9347; I.D. 032700D] received April 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7679. A letter from the Regulations Officer, FHA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Fitness Procedures; Safety Fitness Rating Methodology [Docket No. FMCSA-6789 (Formerly FHWA 97-2252)] (RIN: 2126-AA43) received March 21, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7680. A letter from the General Counsel, Government Contracting, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Government Contracting Programs—received April 3, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

7681. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modified Eligibility Criteria for the Montgomery G.I. Bill—Active Duty (RIN: 2900-AJ69) received April 17, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

7682. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Examination of returns and claims for refund, credit, or abatement; determination of correct tax liability [Rev. Proc. 2000-14] received April 14, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7683. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Congressional Liaison, Program Research and Evaluation, Economic Development Administration, transmitting the annual report on the activities of the Economic Development Administration for fiscal year 1998, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3217; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Banking and Financial Services.

7684. A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting a draft bill, "To provide for enhanced safety and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, and for other purposes"; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Commerce.

7685. A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting a draft bill, "To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 for the United States Coast Guard, and for other purposes."; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Armed Services.

7686. A letter from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting a draft bill entitled, "Federal Property Asset Management Reform Act of 2000."; jointly to the Committees on Government Reform, Transportation and Infrastructure, Ways and Means, and Resources.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. WOLF: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 4475. A bill making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes (Rept. 106-622). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida: Committee on Appropriations. Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2001 (Rept. 106-623). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mrs. MYRICK: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 504. Resolution providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4205) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes (Rept. 106-624). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. WOLF:

H.R. 4475. A bill making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CLAY (for himself, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. OWENS, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, and Mrs. MEEK of Florida):

H.R. 4476. A bill to authorize a program of assistance for partnerships between minority-serving institutions and other institutions of higher education that enable students attending minority-serving institutions to earn dual degrees and enter fields in which students from those institutions are underrepresented, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. TOWNS (for himself, Ms. WATERS, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. RUSH, Mr. WYNN, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. HILLIARD, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. FORD, Ms. CARSON, and Mr. PAYNE):

H.R. 4477. A bill to establish a Digital Bridge Trust Fund to fund programs to improve the skills and career opportunities in information technology and related fields for individuals in underserved rural and urban