Mr. President, all of these many accomplishments would not have been possible without the many efforts and the incredible vision of Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton. Not only has she provided the youth of Detroit with an entirely new opportunity in education, she has also provided the nation with a blueprint for success in inner city public education. And wish her continued success in the future.

COMMENDING FOUR BRAVE COAST GUARDSMEN

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr President, I rise today to commend a helicopter crew from the Coast Guard Air Station in Sitka, Alaska. These four brave men rescued three fishermen from a fierce storm at sea last November. Pilot Lt. Robert Yerex, co-pilot Lt. James O'Keefe, and Petty Officers Third Class Christian Blanco and Noel Hutton flew their helicopter into 40- to 60-knot winds and pulled three fishermen from 35- to 40-foot high swells. The Coast Guard awarded this intrepid crew the Distinguished Flying Cross, the highest peace-time honor that can be awarded, earlier this month.

On November 12, 1999, the four-member crew of the Becca Dawn was caught in a storm 160 miles southwest of Sitka, on the coast of Southeast Alaska. The storm caused the 52-foot vessel to begin sinking so quickly the crew had no time to radio a mayday. Instead, an emergency position-indicating radio beacon was triggered. The signal from the beacon was picked up by the Coast Guard and the helicopter crew was immediately sent out. When they arrived, they found the fishermen had already abandoned ship.

The storm made the rescue extremely difficult. The gusting winds made it extremely difficult to maintain the helicopter’s stability, and blowing snow made visibility extremely low.

Once the Coast Guard crew arrived on the scene they pulled up three of the four crew members. This operation took 40 minutes with the helicopters gusting to 60 knots, the crew of the bucking helicopter became nauseous, but persevered in their search for the missing fourth fisherman in the cold, turbulent water. They only returned to land at the last moment, almost out of fuel, when staying longer would have made them into casualties themselves. Unfortunately, the fourth fisherman was never found and is presumed lost at sea.

Obviously, this brand of courage and tenacity is worthy of the Distinguished Flying Cross and I am very proud of my fellow Coast Guardsmen and Alaskans and I congratulate their hard work and dedication. All Coast Guardsmen pride themselves on being “always ready,” and these four courageous rescuers showed just what that spirit is all about. I salute them.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:15 p.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 bill, without amendment:

S. 1967. An act to make technical corrections to the status of certain land held in trust for the Indians of the Graton Rancheria of California; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 2778. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3292. An act to provide for the establishment of the Cat Island National Wildlife Refuge in West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

The following concurrent resolution was read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 352. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding manipulation of the mass media and intimidation of the independent press in the Russian Federation, expressing support for freedom of speech and the independent media in the Russian Federation, and calling on the President of the United States to express his strong concern for freedom of speech and the independent media in the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, June 20, 2000, he had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 761. An act to facilitate the use of electronic records and signatures in interstate or foreign commerce.

S. 2722. An act to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to Ed W. Freeman, James K. Okubo, and Andrew J. Smith.

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–9263. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report involving exports to Chad and Cameroon; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–9264. A communication from the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, transmitting, pursuant to law, the corrected 2000 annual report of the Board; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–9265. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the refugee resettlement program for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–9266. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Administration and Management), transmitting, a notice relative to a A-76 study of the Pentagon Heating and Refrigeration Plant; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–9267. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to a pilot program for privatization of DOD laboratories; to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

H.R. 946. An act to restore Federal recognition to the Indians of the Graton Rancheria of California; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.
EC–9281. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Schedule of Controlled Substances: Addition of Gamma-Hydroxybutyric Acid to Schedule I; Extension of Application of Order Form Requirement for Certain Persons” received on June 20, 2000, to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–9282. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel (Foreign Assets Control), Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Blocked Persons, Specially Designated Nationals, Specially Designated Terrorists, Foreign Terrorist Organizations, and Specially Designated Narcotics Traffickers; Addition of Persons Blocked Pursuant to 31 CFR Part 538, 31 CFR Part 597” (RIN:31 CFR chapter V, Appendix) received on June 19, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–9283. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Market Regulation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Rule 17Ac2-2 and Form TA-2” (RIN:3325-AH44) received on June 5, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–9284. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Market Regulation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Offer and Sale of Securities to Canadian Tax-Deferred Retirement Savings Plans” (RIN:3325-AH79) received on June 9, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–9285. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Housing and Urban Development (Federal Housing Commissioner), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revocation of Certain Proliferation Control Regulations” (RIN:2502–AH25) received on June 6, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–9286. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing and Urban Development (Federal Housing Commissioner), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS); Technical Correction” (RIN:2077–AC08(FR–4497–C–06)) received on June 6, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–9287. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “41 CFR Parts 716 and 741; Privacy of Consumer Financial Information; Requirements for Insurance” received on June 7, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–9288. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “12 CFR Part 714; Leasing” received on June 14, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–9289. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “12 CFR Part 707; Truth in Savings” received on June 14, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–9290. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind Or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of procurement list additions received on June 1, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–9291. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind Or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of procurement list additions received on June 7, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–9292. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind Or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of procurement list additions received on June 14, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–9293. A communication from the Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Management and Budget, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Acquisition Circular 97–18” received on May 31, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–9294. A communication from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the rule entitled “Public Use of NARA Facilities” (RIN:3095–AA06) received on June 2, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–9295. A communication from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the rule entitled “Records Declassification” (RIN:3095–AA67) received on June 2, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–9296. A communication from the Director of the Office of Executive Resources Management, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the rule entitled “Federal Employees’ Health Benefits Program and Department of Defense Demonstration Project Amendment to 5 CFR Part 690” (RIN:3306–A163) received on June 5, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 277: A resolution commemorating the 400th anniversary of the American policy of Indian self-determination.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committee were submitted:

By Mr. LUGAR for the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.