Corps, and the Coast Guard and the civilians who constitute our maritime services.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 55) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 55

Whereas the launching of the Great White Fleet marked the emergence of the United States as a true global seapower, able to dispatch 16 new battleships on a worldwide deployment for 14 months;

Whereas these battleships were painted entirely white, with gilded scrollwork on their bows, and subsequently came to be known as the ''Great White Fleet'';

Whereas the 4 squadrons of 4 battleships each, manned by 14,000 sailors, sailed 43,000 miles and made 20 port calls on 6 continents;

Whereas the Fleet, in conducting visits to important nations such as Australia, served to reinforce a friendship and partnership that continues to this day;

Whereas the Fleet, in providing a tangible demonstration of the forward naval presence of the United States in the Pacific, also reinforced the message of how important maritime stability and security are to the United States;

Whereas the Fleet, in response to one of the worst natural disasters in European history, was able to immediately divert to Messina, Sicily, to offer humanitarian aid to the Italian people; and

Whereas the Fleet, in executing a range of missions and returning to the United States after 14 months at sea, displayed to the world a number of core American values, including compassion, showed its flexibility by responding to unforeseen events, and demonstrated the ability of the United States to project maritime power as a stabilizing force: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress—

(1) commemorates the wisdom of President Theodore Roosevelt in developing and launching the Great White Fleet;

(2) supports a one-time designation of a day to celebrate the 100th centennial of the Great White Fleet and the special role the Fleet played in building enduring friendships with important allies and partner nations;

(3) commends efforts by the Department of the Navy to maintain and strengthen our cooperative partnerships with foreign nations and to safeguard our Nation's interests in the maritime domain;

(4) commends efforts by the Department of the Navy in leading the development of a Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower; and

(5) honors the sacrifices made and services rendered by the servicemembers of the Navy, Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard and the civilians who constitute our maritime services.

ENCOURAGING PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY IN BURMA

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 56, submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 56) encouraging the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to take action to ensure a peaceful transition to democracy in Burma.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, and any statements relating to the concurrent resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 56) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 56

Whereas hundreds of thousands of citizens of Burma have risked their lives in demonstrations to demand a return to democracy and respect for human rights in their country;

Whereas the repressive military Government of Burma has conducted a brutal crackdown against demonstrators, which has resulted in mass numbers of killings, arrests, and detentions;

Whereas Burma has been a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) since 1997;

Whereas foreign ministers of other ASEAN member nations, in reference to Burma, have ''demanded that the government immediately desist from the use of violence against demonstrators'', expressed ''revulsion'' over reports that demonstrators were being suppressed by violent and deadly force, and called for ''the release of all political detainees including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi'';

Whereas the foreign ministers of ASEAN member nations have expressed concern that developments in Burma ''had a serious impact on the reputation and credibility of ASEAN'';

Whereas Ibrahim Gambari, the United Nations (UN) Special Envoy to Burma, has called on the member nations of ASEAN to take additional steps on the Burma issue, saying, ''Not just Thailand but all the countries that I am visiting, India, China, Indonesia, Malaysia and the UN, we could do more'';

Whereas the ASEAN Security Community Plan of Action adopted October 7, 2003, at the ASEAN Summit in Bali states that ASEAN members ''shall promote political development . . . to achieve peace, stability, democracy, and prosperity in the region'', and specifically says that ''ASEAN Member Countries shall not condone unconstitutional and undemocratic changes of government'';

Whereas the Government of Singapore, as the current Chair of ASEAN, will host ASEAN's regional summit in November 2007 to approve ASEAN's new charter;

Whereas the current Foreign Minister of Singapore, George Yeo, has publicly expressed, ''For some time now, we had stopped trying to defend Myanmar internationally because it became no longer credible'';

Whereas, according to the chairman of the High Level Task Force charged with drafting the new ASEAN Charter, the Charter ''will make ASEAN a more rules-based organization and . . . will put in place a system of compliance monitoring and, most importantly, a system of compulsory dispute settlement for noncompliance that will apply to all ASEAN agreements'';

Whereas upon its accession to ASEAN, Burma agreed to subscribe or accede to all ASEAN declarations, treaties, and agreements;

Whereas 2007 marks the 30th anniversary of the relationship and dialogue between the United States and ASEAN;

Whereas the Senate passed legislation in the 109th Congress that would authorize the establishment of the position of United States Ambassador for ASEAN Affairs, and the President announced in 2007 that an Ambassador would be appointed; and

Whereas ASEAN member nations and the United States share common concerns across a broad range of issues, including accelerated economic growth, social progress, cultural development, and peace and stability in the Southeast Asia region: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) joins the foreign ministers of member nations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) that have expressed concern over the human rights situation in Burma;

(2) encourages ASEAN to take more substantial steps to ensure a peaceful transition to democracy in Burma;

(3) welcomes steps by ASEAN to strengthen its internal governance through the adoption of a formal ASEAN charter;

(4) urges ASEAN to ensure that all member nations live up to their membership obligations and adhere to ASEAN's core principles, including respect for and commitment to human rights; and

(5) would welcome a decision by ASEAN, consistent with its core documents and its new charter, to review Burma's membership in ASEAN and to consider appropriate disciplinary measures, including suspension, until such time as the Government of Burma has demonstrated an improved respect for and commitment to human rights.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 3703, H.R. 3997

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk. I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bills by title for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill, (H.R. 3703), to amend section 5112(p)(1)(A) of title 31, United States Code, to allow an exception from the $1 coin dispensing capability requirement for certain vending machines.

A bill (H.R. 3997) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide earnings assistance and tax relief to members of the uniformed services, volunteer firefighters, and Peace Corps volunteers, and for other purposes.

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading en bloc, and I object to my requests en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until 9 a.m., Tuesday, November 20; that on Tuesday the Senate conduct a pro forma session only, with no business conducted; that at the close of the pro forma session the Senate convene pro forma on the following days and times with no business conducted: Friday, November 23, at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, November 27, at 9 a.m.; Thursday, November 29, at 9:30 a.m.; that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, November 29, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. Monday, December 3; that on Monday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there then be a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

RECESS UNTIL TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2007

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, if there is no further business today, I now ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 1:54 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, November 20, 2007, at 9 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

UNITED STATES TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

LARRY WOODROW WALTHER, OF ARKANSAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, VICE THELMA J. ASKEY, RESIGNED.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations Confirmed by the Senate Friday, November 16, 2007:

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

MARK D. GEARAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 1, 2010.

JULIE FISHER CUMMINGS, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 14, 2011.

DONNA N. WILLIAMS, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2009.

TOM OSBORNE, OF NEBRASKA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2012.

ALAN D. SOLOMONT, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2009.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOUGLAS A. BROOK, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

JOHN J. YOUNG, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY, AND LOGISTICS.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ROBERT L. SMOLEN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR DEFENSE PROGRAMS, NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

MICHAEL W. HAGER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (HUMAN RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT).

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES' COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. CARROL H. CHANDLER, 0000

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. DONALD L. RUTHERFORD, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL JOSEPH CARAVALHO, JR., 0000
COLONEL RHONDA L. S. CORNUM, 0000
COLONEL KEITH W. GALLAGHER, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. THOMAS F. METZ, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. JEFFREY A. SORENSON, 0000

THE JUDICIARY

REED CHARLES O'CONNOR, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF MICHAEL V. SIEBERT, 0000, TO BE CAPTAIN.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN D. ONEIL AND ENDING WITH FRANK R. VIDAL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 1, 2007.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF ANTHONY BARBER, 0000, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF TIM C. LAWSON, 0000, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RICHARD D. FOX II, 0000, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN G. GOULET, 0000, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DAVID L. PATTEN, 0000, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARK J. BENEDICT AND ENDING WITH GUSTAV D. WATERHOUSE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 1, 2007.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF MELVIN L. CHATTMAN, 0000, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANA R. BROWN AND ENDING WITH MARK R. REID, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 1, 2007.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JULIAN D. ARELLANO AND ENDING WITH JARED W. WYRICK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 1, 2007.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HARRY J. BROWN AND ENDING WITH ELAINE C. WOLFF, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 16, 2007.