

structured expressly to keep Gen. Abacha in power. In effect, they acknowledged the contradiction between our Nigeria policy and the political realities there.

Virtually none of the institutions that would allow for a free and fair election—an independent electoral commission, an open registration process, or open procedures for the participation of independent political parties, for example—have been put into place. Repression continues unabated: political prisoners remain in prison, the press remains heavily constrained, and the fruits of Nigeria's abundant natural resources remain in the hands of Abacha's supporters.

Unfortunately, I fear the President's remarks may have done real damage already, by indicating to Gen. Abacha and his cronies that if Abacha were to take off his military uniform, throw on civilian clothes, and win an election, it would be OK with the United States. I fear the United States has explicitly agreed to accept a wolf in sheep's clothing!

Well, lest anyone get the wrong idea, let me say that I believe, and I hope most of my colleagues believe, an electoral victory for Abacha would hardly represent a transition to democracy. It would be totally unacceptable. I hope that President Clinton will clarify the policy of the United States with respect to Nigeria soon. It is high time the policy review that began nearly two years ago is completed, so we do not have this alarming confusion.

Nigeria must know that anything less than a transparent transition to civilian rule will be met with severe policy consequences.

Finally, I emphasized to the President that the United States should make support for Africa's organizations of civil society a higher priority. These groups do courageous work to promote human rights standards and to monitor their governments' compliance. Accordingly, U.S. officials must speak out publicly when these courageous people are abused by their governments. I have urged the President to take the opportunity to highlight the vital work being performed by a broad range of civil society organizations, including those facing government repression.

Mr. President, I was concerned last December when some news reports following Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's trip to Africa included statements by U.S. officials that it would be unfair to hold certain African governments to "Western" standards of personal and political freedom. Not only does this contradict stated U.S. policy, it is a condescending, unnecessary and dangerous concession to make to African governments that flout human rights.

A clear message on democracy and human rights is especially important as the U.S. works with African nations to strengthen their economies. Economic growth is crucial to any nation's

success, but the U.S. must ensure that as it helps to foster economic development, it also fosters political and personal freedoms. Not only does the U.S. have a moral obligation to promote human rights, Africa's post-colonial history shows us that African nations with long-term democratic rule are also the nations with the best long-term economic performances. Freedom fosters prosperity.

The respect a government shows for human rights can tell us whether that regime will respect its neighbors, its trading partners, and the world community at large. A government that does not respect the rights of its people cannot be trusted to honor a trade agreement or a treaty, much less the rule of law in general. This is as true for Nigeria as it is for China.

The common thread running through our Africa policy must be the U.S. commitment to democracy and human rights. Without this commitment, true peace cannot take root and economic growth will ultimately falter. Now more than ever we must make clear our commitment to democracy and human rights, both to governments working toward these goals, and, more importantly, to those repressive regimes that are not.

Mr. President, I welcome the energy the Clinton administration has devoted to Africa and to U.S. policy there. I look forward to working with the President in the future to capitalize on the momentum that will certainly be created by this most historic trip.●

TRAGEDY IN CENTRE COUNTY

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to pay my respects to several young people who recently lost their lives in a cabin fire.

Two weeks ago, 11 friends from Northumberland and Lancaster Counties planned a weekend retreat at the Wehry family cabin. The site of many memorable family gatherings, the newly remodeled cabin seemed to be the perfect setting to eat, play cards, and enjoy rural Centre County's outdoor recreation. On Sunday morning, March 22, the friends' fun-filled weekend came to a devastating end. The "mansion in the mountains" caught fire at 5:20 a.m. All of the 11 friends died in their sleep from smoke inhalation.

Each of these young people was special in his or her own right. A quiet girl, Toni Wehry wanted to be a teacher. Amanda Wehry was bright, outgoing, and popular. Tyrone Wehry, who was working for the House Republican caucus in Harrisburg, planned to pursue a career in politics. Warwick High School's former basketball star, Erik Gray was learning to be an electrician. Nicholas Berkey was lovingly described as a dependable young man who was saving money to buy a house. The versatile James Giliberti enjoyed martial arts, music, and finance; he had planned to invest in an IRA this year.

Kip Snyder is remembered as a prankster who pitched for the Line Mountain High School baseball team. Chad Hain, who enjoyed hands-on technical work, had a promising career in carpentry. Quiet and sensitive, Jason Herrold was studying business administration at Susquehanna University. The Wiest brothers, Toby and David, owned a paint ball supply store. By all accounts, the vivacious Toby and the pensive David were best friends.

Friends and neighbors have rallied to console the victims' families. Well wishers tied blue and gold ribbons—Line Mountain High School's colors—to telephone poles, lampposts, and front doors. These poignant memorials hang beside Easter decorations. Students at Line Mountain High signed banners in the auditorium to bid their friends farewell. Signs expressing words of comfort and encouragement hang in the windows of local businesses. One reads, "Now they're in God's cabin."

Mr. President, words cannot describe a parent's grief upon the death of a child. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending the Senate's condolences to the victims' families. Our prayers and heartfelt sympathies go out to them.●

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MURRAY

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to David Murray, a well known and certainly well regarded patient advocate at the Veterans' Administration (VA) in White River Junction who is leaving the great state of Vermont to relocate to the state of Washington. Although I question why anyone would willingly opt to move from the most beautiful state in the union, I must concede that Washington state is probably a close second in terms of beauty and quality of life.

I certainly wish Dave well as he embarks on this exciting venture, though life at the Veterans' Administration hospital will never be quite the same without him. Each day he goes beyond the call of duty in his never-wavering advocacy for veterans. He provides veterans and their families with their crucial link to understanding and moving through the system. Dave is probably the most sought after person at the VA and I would venture a guess that he receives more "pages" in one hour than most VA doctors receive in an entire day.

Service is a word that Dave knows well. He served honorably in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, continued his federal service for the next 20 plus years culminating in his current job as Patient Advocate at the VA hospital in White River Junction. He is a member of the Disabled American Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion and involved himself in his community as a boy scout leader. It is my understanding that Dave, when he's not working or wearing one of his many service

hats, actually enjoys camping, canoeing and gardening.

Mr. President, I would like to publicly recognize Dave's outstanding contribution to his fellow veterans and wish him and his wife Diane the very best in their change of venue. I would ask them to remember that if they ever decide to come home to Vermont, we will leave the light on.●

GEORGE GUEDEL'S SERVICE AT THE NAVY'S ACOUSTIC RESEARCH DETACHMENT AT BAYVIEW, IDAHO

● Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I rise to say thank you to a patriot and a technical expert, George Guedel, who is retiring on May 1, 1998. George was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and was raised in the Seattle, WA area.

George attended the U.S. Naval Academy for two years until the responsibilities of marriage led him to leave the academy. George completed his bachelor's degree in physics at the University of Washington. In 1965, George began working for the Navy in the underwater acoustics field, and, except for a short stint as a government contractor, continued working in that field for the Navy in positions of increasing responsibility until his retirement.

George's assignments include: Head of the Carr Inlet Acoustic Range; Head of the Acoustic Analysis Branch at the Naval Undersea Warfare Station in Keyport, WA; Head of the Santa Cruz Island Acoustic Range Facility; and Head of the Submarine Noise Measurement & Analysis Branch of the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Bremerton, WA. Throughout his career, Mr. Guedel has been highly regarded for his expertise in underwater acoustics and machinery vibration, as well as for his skill in managing complex acoustic testing.

George's final and longest assignment was as Director of the Naval Surface Warfare Center's Acoustic Research Detachment (ARD) in Bayview, ID for over ten years. In this important position, George oversaw a major expansion in facilities and staff in support of critical testing for the *Seawolf* and New Attack Submarine programs.

His work at the ARD also included frequent presentations to top government officials and extensive involvement with the Idaho community. He has been recognized with an Employee-of-the-Year Award, several Special Act Awards and Special Achievement Awards, and numerous letters of recognition from high-ranking Navy officers. George Guedel is the author or co-author of numerous technical reports on ship and submarine noise characteristics.

George and his wife Ruth have 5 adult children, one two-year-old granddaughter, and a golden retriever. George has been an accomplished sailor since childhood, regularly competing in regattas. He is also an avid scuba

diver and outdoorsman. After retirement, George plans to volunteer his skills to an organization devoted to preservation of the environment. George also hopes to spend more time on his hobbies and to win the sailing Nationals.

George Guedel has been a stalwart contributor to our Navy's stealth service and he has given outstanding assistance to me in my effort to showcase the impressive work performed at the Navy's premier submarine acoustic testing center in Bayview, Idaho. I want to wish George and Ruth good luck, fair winds and following seas in their next endeavors.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CRAZY HORSE MEMORIAL

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I express my strong support for the sense of the Senate resolution commemorating the efforts of the Ziolkowski family over the past fifty years in their endeavor to honor the great Oglala Sioux leader Tasunke Witko, or Crazy Horse, through creation of the Crazy Horse Memorial. The Crazy Horse Memorial is a nonprofit cultural, educational, and humanitarian project dedicated to Native Americans throughout North America. The 50th anniversary of the first blast at the memorial site will occur on June 3, 1998, in my home state of South Dakota.

Crazy Horse was one of this nation's greatest Native American warriors and spiritual leaders, who fought to defend the rights and lives of his people and all Native Americans throughout his short life. He is widely remembered for leading a force of Cheyenne and Oglala Sioux warriors to victory over George Armstrong Custer in the Battle of Little Big Horn. Crazy Horse was born on Rapid Creek in 1840, and was killed when he was only 37 years of age. During his life he was a great leader of his people. Native Americans agree he did not have an equal as a warrior or a chief. He gave submissive allegiance to no man, white or Indian, and claimed his inalienable rights as an Indian to wander at will over the hunting grounds of his people. He wanted only peace and a way of living for his people.

In 1940, several Sioux Indian chiefs invited the late sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski to create a memorial to their great leader, Crazy Horse, by carving a tribute to him in the Black Hills on what is popularly known as "Thunderhead Mountain." The Memorial was dedicated on June 3, 1948 with the first blast on the Thunderhead Mountain at which time Mr. Ziolkowski vowed that creation of the Memorial would be a nonprofit educational and cultural project, financed solely through private means, and wholly without government funding. Korczak Ziolkowski dedicated his life to creation of the Crazy Horse Memorial, up until his death on October 20, 1982.

Once complete, the Crazy Horse Memorial will be the largest sculpture in the world standing 563 feet high and 641 feet long. I am pleased that the Senate will recognize June 3, 1998, as the 50th anniversary of the first blast on Thunderhead Mountain, the first step towards completion of the Crazy Horse Memorial. I would like to congratulate the fifty years of efforts of Korczak Ziolkowski, his wife Ruth Ziolkowski, and their children in creating the Crazy Horse Memorial and notethat the creation of the Memorial from its inception on June 3, 1948 to the present day was accomplished through private donations and completely without federal funding.

One of many great and patriotic Indian heroes, Crazy Horse's tenacity of purpose, his modest life, his unflinching courage, and his tragic death set him apart and above the others. Completion of the Crazy Horse Memorial will serve as a lasting tribute to the great Oglala Sioux warrior and spiritual leader, Crazy Horse, and to all Native Americans.●

TRIBUTE TO RICK FRIES

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, next week, the students, parents and faculty from Orange Grove Junior High in Hacienda Heights, California, will be visiting our nation's Capitol. This will be the twentieth consecutive year that students from Orange Grove have visited Washington, D.C. This also marks the twentieth consecutive visit by Orange Grove's tour leader and history teacher, Rick Fries.

It was in the Spring of 1979 when Rick Fries first led a group of more than 25 students and adults to the East Coast, visiting Jamestown, Yorktown, Williamsburg, Charlottesville and finally Washington, D.C. For each succeeding year thereafter, he would bring another group of Orange Grove students, sometimes to new historic places, but always to Washington. His students have seen where Revolution was born in Boston, where Independence was declared in Philadelphia, where the Union was preserved in Gettysburg, and where our laws are made right here in Washington.

From the very first tour in 1979, Mr. Fries' goal was simple: to make American History come to life for his students. The name of his tour says it all: Living History. It's fair to say he has succeeded. This year, Mr. Fries will be leading a group of 63 students and 20 adults to Washington. His tour is so popular among Orange Grove students, it is sold out well before the beginning of the school year.

The tour has remained popular after all these years because the enthusiasm Mr. Fries shows for history and for his students has never wavered. Those who have traveled with and learned from Mr. Fries all agree: He makes the history of our country an enjoyable experience for both students and parents because he enjoys it as well.