

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, ten years ago, on March 15, 1989, President Bush hailed the creation of the new Department of Veterans Affairs by saying, "There is only one place for the veterans of America, in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America." Ten years ago today, veterans took their rightful place at the highest executive level of Federal Government. The Department of Veterans Affairs Act, passed the previous October by the 100th Congress, was implemented and the new Department of Veterans Affairs became a reality. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs became the 14th member of the President's cabinet.

While the United States has the most comprehensive system of assistance for veterans of any nation in the world, it was not until 10 years ago that our Nation's veterans received the hard earned recognition provided them by the creation of a cabinet level department. It is also somewhat ironic that veterans waited so long for the establishment of a cabinet level department as the foundation for the Department of Veterans Affairs was established some 350 years earlier in 1636, when the Pilgrims of Plymouth Colony, who were at war with the Pequot Indians, approved a measure stating that disabled soldiers would be supported by the colony.

The establishment of the Department of Veterans Affairs fulfilled this Nation's promise to those who had risked it all to preserve, protect and defend by giving them direct representation before the Nation's chief executive. As Rep. G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery, Chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee at the time the legislation passed, said, "We didn't make the government bigger, we gave our veterans a bigger voice in government."

Rep. Gerald Solomon, ranking minority member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs at the time, said, "The change directly supported Congress's and the President's effort to rebuild the military. A strong VA and strong veterans' benefits programs are the underpinning of a viable all-volunteer military force. We understood that then, and we understand it now."

After becoming a cabinet level department in 1989, VA began to grow, not in size, but in importance, operating as an equal to other departments. As a department, VA has played a major, if not the lead, role in issues that have dominated our national agenda—homelessness, health care management, government reinvention and reengineering, AIDS, workplace diversity and medical research to name a few.

As a cabinet department, VA has successfully embarked on bold initiatives to reinvent

the veterans' benefits delivery process and re-engineer the nation's largest hospital-based health care system into a patient-focused health network delivering a uniform package of health maintenance services to more veterans in more locations than ever before. VA is today undergoing an evolution like never before in its history with the goal of continuing to provide better service to our Nation's veterans, their survivors and dependents.

As a cabinet level department of federal government, VA is well positioned to fulfill the Nation's promise to its veterans well into the 21st century and to give renewed meaning to Lincoln's call for this nation "to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan." We expect and will accept no less.

HONORING MARIE JOSSE L. MONTROSE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Marie J. Montrose, for her exemplary community service, and for her numerous contributions to the Brooklyn community.

Ms. Marie J. Montrose is the Director of Community and Patient Relations at Interfaith Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. In that capacity, she is responsible for Community Affairs, Patient Relations, Pastoral Care and Volunteers Services. Ms. Montrose is Interfaith's liaison with community organizations, agencies, churches, schools and other groups that are interested in working together with the institution to continue to improve the health of residents of the Central Brooklyn community.

Ms. Marie J. Montrose has implemented several new programs at the hospital: The Dr. Martin Luther King—the African American Celebration Day, Employee Honor Roll, Employee Satisfaction Survey, Random Act of Kindness Day, the Annual Memorial Service for deceased employees, the Summer Youth Employment Program and the hospital-wide Customer Relations training program. Last September, she directed the activities for the groundbreaking ceremony of "Interfaith, A New Beginning".

A native of Haiti, Ms. Montrose is a long time resident of Brooklyn. She is also a proud parent. Her daughter Sarah Anne gives her the inspiration to lecture and write extensively on health care advocacy and children issues. Her thesis "Who are the Children and How is their Health?" was published in the book "The Multicultural Challenge in Health Education" in 1996. Her latest projects "The Economics of Health and the Immigrant"—"The Patient and Managed Care—Whose Right Is It Anyway?" were accepted for publication.

Ms. Montrose is an active member of national, state, and local organizations. She serves on several local boards dedicated to

improving health care: AMBA Executives, New York Society of Health Care Advocacy, National Society for Consumer Affairs, Visions Services for the Blind, American Public Health Association, and the Ryan White Advisory Committee. With all of her activities Ms. Montrose still finds time to volunteer as a teacher for newly emigrated teenagers.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Marie J. Montrose who has helped the community, and has served as an excellent role model.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 37 on March 10, 1999, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN KOSOVO RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 42) regarding the use of United States Armed Forces as part of a NATO peacekeeping operation implementing a Kosovo peace agreement:

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Chairman, today I rise in strong opposition to the deployment of U.S. ground forces in Kosovo. I base my opposition on three principles: first, that the administration must abide by U.S. law in the event of a deployment; second, that the Kosovo issue represents a threat primarily to European, rather than American interests; and third, that intervention in Kosovo at this time would set a dangerous precedent for NATO and the U.S. armed forces by providing military support to an independence movement within a sovereign nation—a far different mission than that currently underway on the Balkan Peninsula.

With particular regard to the administration's legal obligation, I believe it critical for the President to abide by last year's defense authorization measure (P. Law 105-262), which the President signed into law. This law requires that before American troops are deployed to Kosovo, the President must (1) certify that the presence of U.S. forces in Kosovo is necessary to the national security interests of the United States; (2) provide the reasoning behind this certification; (3) report the number of American men and women who will be deployed; (4) establish the mission and objectives of U.S. forces in Kosovo; (5) detail the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

expected schedule for accomplishing mission objectives; (6) outline the exit strategy for U.S. forces; (7) provide an estimate of the costs of the deployment and the funding sources that will be used to pay those costs; and (8) estimate and report the potential effects of this additional deployment on the morale, retention, and effectiveness of the Armed Forces.

These eight requirements are, in my view, the minimum amount of information a President should provide the people and their duly elected representatives prior to sending American men and women into harms way. President Clinton should follow the example of President Bush in the months leading up to the American deployments and military action in Operation Desert Storm. During that time, President Bush reached out to Congress and the American people to explain why the action was necessary and the extent and nature of its risks. Not only does President Clinton have a moral and ethical obligation to the American people to explain our interests before risking the lives of our soldiers, he has a legal obligation to report to Congress, as well. Congress was clear in its requirements, and the President must be held accountable to the law.

Regarding the interests at stake in Kosovo, it is clear that the conflict represents very little threat to American military, diplomatic, economic, or other interests. While protecting human rights is clearly an important goal of American foreign policy, it is unclear whether the deployment of U.S. ground forces will serve or complicate attempts to accomplish this goal. A long-term solution would likely be all the more difficult to reach if the U.S. intervenes as Turkey, Greece, and Russia would all likely oppose such an action. Intervention would, therefore, put U.S. troops at odds with allies and adversaries alike.

While it is unclear what effect American military action would have in Kosovo at this time, it is obvious that the current fighting has significant ramifications for Europe and North Africa. Albanian minorities in Montenegro and Greece will take cues from the international response to Kosovo, and Albania itself could face severe difficulties if NATO actions force the repatriation of tens of thousands of refugees. Clearly, Europe has an interest in stopping the violence and the flow of refugees from Yugoslavia. It is the nations of Europe, therefore, that should lead the peace effort in Kosovo and that should bear the human and economic costs of any military action.

Finally, I believe the United States should be very wary of setting a precedent for supporting independence movements within sovereign nations. While there is no doubt that Serbian forces have committed and, apparently, continue to commit deplorable acts of violence and oppression, there are political minorities in virtually every country in the world that legitimately claim some degree of oppression. I do not think the American people are ready to deploy U.S. armed forces throughout the world to establish new countries for every group that seeks greater political influence. And I know that our armed forces—already stretched so thin that our readiness for engagement in a major contingency has come into question—will find it even more difficult to accomplish their primary function of national defense if the President chooses to engage in yet another unfunded, open-ended operation on foreign soil.

I have traveled to Bosnia three times and have great sympathy for all of the people liv-

ing on the Balkan Peninsula. I also have great respect for the accomplishments of the peace-keeping effort in Bosnia. The crisis in Kosovo, however, represents a very different threat in need of a very different solution. I do not believe that the deployment of ground troops will serve the interest of peace, the interest of human rights, or the interests of the United States.

Furthermore, I demand that President Clinton and his administration abide by the law and provide Congress and the American people the information required under the Fiscal Year 1999 Defense Authorization Act (Pub. L. 105-262). Only through full disclosure will Congress and the American people have all the facts necessary to make a fully informed decision regarding the proposed deployment.

TERRY MCGINTY HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring the achievements of Mr. Terry McGinty to the attention of my colleagues. The Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will honor Terry as their "Man of the Year" at this year's annual St. Patrick's Day Banquet. I am pleased to have been asked to participate in this event.

Terry is the son of Terry McGinty, Sr. and Mary Catherine McGinty of Inkerman, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Pittston Area High School and Mansfield University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education. Terry worked for the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for seventeen years, then moved to the Pittston Area School District to teach in the special education department. Currently, he teaches special needs students at the Martin L. Mattei Middle School. In 1990, Mr. McGinty was awarded the Annie Sullivan Award for Excellence in Teaching by the Luzerne County Intermediate Unit for his years of dedication to his special students.

Terry's love of sports has continued throughout his life. He has been a volunteer coach in several different youth sports programs including soccer and t-ball. He jointly volunteered his time with Luzerne County Commons Pleas Court Judge Mark Ciavarella at the Catholic Youth Center as coach of the girl's swim team. Terry was honored by the Center in 1997 after leading the team to seven consecutive, undefeated championship seasons.

He has assisted coaching at the high school level in both swimming and track and has organized and coached summer programs in swimming. Terry is an avid runner and has completed two marathons and participated in triathlons and numerous other local races.

Terry and his wife, Lynn, have been hosts for Project Children which brings children from Northern Ireland to America for the summer. In 1987, the McGintys visited the family of one of their visitors in Ireland. Terry has been an active member of the Friendly Sons for many years, serving as its President in 1986 and as Program Chairman for the annual banquet for seventeen years.

Terry is a member of the American Federation of Teachers, the Knights of Columbus, the

Ancient Order of Hibernians, and the Laffin Homeowners Association. He and Lynn reside in Laffin and are the parents of two high school age children: Kelly and Terry, III.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with the Friendly Sons in honoring this fine educator and community volunteer as its "Man of the Year." I send my very best wishes to Terry and his family as he accepts this prestigious award.

HONORING MS. ELA CECILE TONEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ela Cecile Toney, for her exemplary community service, and for her numerous contributions to the Brooklyn community.

Ms. Toney is a registered nurse and works as a Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner at Interfaith Medical Center. Her primary interests include reduction of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. Throughout Ela Toney's tenure she has worked in many low income community health care organizations. She has practiced in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brownsville, East New York and Coney Island. She is a dedicated nurse who is extremely concerned about the women of her community and has lobbied in Albany to make women's health top priority.

Ms. Toney immigrated to the United States from St. Vincent and the Grenadines four decades ago. Her dream was to educate herself and help others. She has achieved both goals. She is a graduate of the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital School of Nursing and she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in nursing from Jersey City State College. Ms. Toney is a grandmother and an active member in many professional and charitable organizations.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Ela Cecile Toney, who has served the Brooklyn community with pride, and is an excellent role model.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 36 on March 10, 1999, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CONSUMER INCENTIVE TAX ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Electric Vehicle Consumer Incentive Tax Act "EVCITA" of 1999. This legislation provides important tax incentives for electric vehicles. It is important because the

widespread use of electric vehicles can result in significant environmental, energy security, and economic development opportunities in the United States.

HOW CAN ELECTRIC VEHICLES TAX INCENTIVES BENEFIT THE ECONOMY?

Each major automobile manufacturer, domestic and foreign, has, or plans to offer, electric vehicles for sale or lease. As in the case with any new, advanced technology that is initially offered to consumers, the price of these early vehicles is significantly higher than the expected lower price for EVs when greater volumes are achieved. The government can play a role in making these vehicles more affordable by reducing the tax costs. Doing so can help increase consumer access and stimulate rapid growth of the industry.

WHY ARE ENVIRONMENTALISTS AND STATE/LOCAL GOVERNMENTS INTERESTED IN ELECTRIC VEHICLES?

Many metropolitan areas in the United States suffer from poor air quality and are falling under the definition of "non-attainment zones." The use of electric vehicles, especially in these areas, could provide an effective means to reduce transportation-related pollution. Electric vehicles emit no hydrocarbons, volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide or nitrogen oxides.

WHY ARE ELECTRIC VEHICLES IMPORTANT TO ENERGY SECURITY?

According to the Department of Energy, U.S. net imports of petroleum in the year 2000 are forecast to account for 52 percent of total U.S. petroleum demand, up from an estimated 50 percent in 1998. Making alternative fuel vehicles a more affordable option ensures lower dependency on foreign supply.

HOW THE LEGISLATION WOULD WORK

One key to weaning the country off of imported oil and into alternative fuel vehicles, like electric cars and buses, is bringing down the high initial purchase price of the vehicles and assuring that targeted, early markets are better able to take the steps necessary to purchase the vehicles. The provisions included in the EV Consumer Incentive Tax Act of 1999 are intended to do just that. The tax incentives included in EVCITA will make early EVs and electric buses more affordable to consumers, and will allow an important market segment—governments, universities and other non-tax-paying fleets—to take advantage of the savings provided through the federal tax incentive.

TAX EQUITY FOR OVERSIZED ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Under current law, electric powered buses are allowed to only take advantage of the existing \$4,000 tax credit for electric vehicles while all other alternatively fueled buses are eligible for a \$50,000 tax deduction. EVCITA equalizes the tax treatment by allowing oversized electric vehicles the same benefit provided oversized clean-fuel vehicles. Electric buses can be used by many urban transit authorities. According to the Electric Transit Vehicle Institute, there are 179 electric buses in operation throughout the United States as of December, 1998.

MAXIMIZING THE BENEFIT OF THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE TAX CREDIT

Current law provides a tax credit of the lesser of 10% or \$4,000 against the cost of a standard-size electric vehicle. This provision expires December 31, 2004. The investment value of this credit has eroded since its enactment in 1992. EVCITA will restore the value of

the credit by making the benefit a flat \$4,000 against the cost of the vehicle. In addition, this legislation will extend the credit through December 31, 2008.

PROVIDING FEDERAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THE BENEFIT OF REDUCED COSTS

Current law prohibits the use of tax credits for electric vehicles used by a federal, state or local government entity. Across the country, local municipalities are leading the charge in reducing environmental costs by putting electric vehicles into service. In instances where local governments lease electric vehicles, EVCITA will permit the owner of the vehicle to be eligible for the tax benefit.

ENDORSEMENTS

The provisions of this legislation have been endorsed by the following organizations: Union of Concerned Scientists, Coalition for Clean Air, American Methanol Institute, the Georgia Conservancy, the Edison Electric Institute, the Electric Transportation Coalition, Clean Cities—Atlanta, the Southern Coalition for Advanced Transportation, Georgia Power, and the Clean Air Campaign.

The provisions of the EV Consumer Incentive Act of 1999 are comparatively modest in cost. According to the Joint Tax Committee estimate provided in 1998, the cost associated with the provisions of the EV Consumer Incentive Tax Act between FY 1999–2002 was \$44 million. These tax incentives will help ensure that electric vehicles are a viable transportation option for consumers.

THOMAS M. LOUGHNEY HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Thomas M. Loughney from Pennsylvania's Eleventh Congressional District. The Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will bestow the W. Francis Swingle award upon Mr. Loughney at their annual banquet this year. I am proud to have been asked to participate in this event.

The Swingle award is named for Professor Frank Swingle and is given each year to the member who most honors his memory in career and personal achievement. Tom Loughney is an excellent choice for this year's honor.

Tom is a graduate of St. John's High School and the University of Scranton. He completed his graduate work at Drexel University and George Washington University. Tom served with the Department of Defense for thirty-two years as an electronic engineer. One of the highlights of his distinguished career was his participation in the Mallard Project, a joint, cooperative communications development program, sponsored by the United States, Australia, Canada, and England. Since his retirement, Tom has been a consultant for Logistics Engineering.

Tom has been an active member of the Society of Logistics Engineers throughout his career, at one time serving on the Society's Board of Directors and on the Board of Governors of the Logistics Education Foundation. He is also a Certified Professional Logistician.

Tom combined an active career, community, and family life with a love for his ancestral

country. He first visited Ireland on his honeymoon with his wife, Maureen, and has returned more than twenty-five times. He is active in the Knights of Columbus and was Home Association President for two years during the purchasing and renovation of its building in the late 1950s. He is also a member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of the Jersey Shore and the Irish Federation of Monmouth County, New Jersey. He was founder and General Chairman of the "Afternoon in Ireland" event held each year in Monmouth County.

Although born and raised in Pittston, Pennsylvania, he now lives with his wife in Middletown, New Jersey. Tom and Maureen have four grown children, Tom, Jr., Mike, Dan, and Maureen, all pursuing careers around the country.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with the Friendly Sons in congratulating Tom on this prestigious honor and send my very best wishes for continued health and happiness.

ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AIR FORCE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding men and women, past and present, active and reserve, of the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Department on the occasion of the Department's 50th Anniversary. General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, the second Chief of Staff of the Air Force, officially created the Judge Advocate General's Department Order #7 on January 25, 1949. The First Air Force Judge Advocate General, Major General Reginald C. Harmon, was promoted to major general directly from the rank of colonel. Following Major General Harmon, 12 other Judge Advocates General have served, including Major General Bryan G. Hawley who retired recently, and the newly installed incumbent Major General William A. Moorman.

The JAG Department has a rich and colorful history. Before the Air Force was formed, there were special Air JAGs for the Army Air Corps. JAGs and paralegals have been at commanders' sides in every operation since the department was formed, including Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, and the Persian Gulf. In addition to combat theaters, JAGs have been critical components of forces conducting humanitarian, peacekeeping, and contingency operations in far-off places like Somalia, Bosnia, Haiti, and Rwanda. Often, much of the JAG's work is carried on behind the scenes, negotiating with foreign leaders, making arrangements for proper services, and ensuring agreements are in the place to service members abroad. As important and even less conspicuous are the paralegals and other legal staff that support these operations.

Perhaps the single most important role JAGs perform is in assisting commanders to administer a fair and equitable system of military justice. General Washington recognized, as did Caesar and Alexander before him, that discipline distinguishes an armed force from a mob. History has shown that discipline, enforced by an even-handed and credible system of justice, is an essential element of an

effective fighting force. That system of justice must be mobile, be able to react to unique military offenses, and be administered by those who understand the environment in which it functions. Air Force JAGs have preserved such a system for Air Force members, whether stationed at home or at remote sites worldwide. Mothers and fathers throughout America have entrusted their sons and daughters to Air Force commanders, knowing that they will be treated fairly and justly.

Air Force Judge Advocates have made significant contributions to the practice of law throughout the military. Air Force JAGs were instrumental in establishing the requirement to inform an accused of his rights well before the Supreme Court directed Miranda warnings be read. The Air Force was the first service to institute an independent defense counsel program, ensuring accused military members received zealous representation, without even the appearance of command influence. Air Force JAGs have also participated in some of the most influential cases in military history on topics ranging from military jurisdiction over off-base offenses, to the use of polygraph results in court and drug analysis.

In addition, as the Air Force has adapted to ever changing environments, JAGs have led the way by resolving the complex legal issues that have accompanied these changes. To meet these challenges, the JAG Department has grown from 442 officers to a force of over 4,680 personnel, including JAGs, civilian attorneys, enlisted members, civilian support staff, and Reserve and National Guard personnel. The JAG Department has also expanded its expertise into other critical legal specialties such as aviation, civil, claims, environmental, ethics, international, labor, legal assistance, medical, operations, procurement, space, and tax law. As the Air Force faces the challenges of the 21st Century, the JAG Department will be there to help commanders maintain the world's greatest Air Force, committed to going anywhere in the world, anytime.

I am honored to rise in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Department and express the heartfelt thanks of the people of the United States for a job well done to all who serve or who have served in the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Department.

HONORING MS. LENA B. MEDLEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Lena B. Medley, for her exemplary community service, and dedication to educating the children of the Brooklyn community.

Ms. Lena B. Medley, is an unsung American Hero in Education who took on the arduous task of saving a school and a community, six years ago when she became the Principal of Thomas Jefferson High School. Ms. Medley restored pride and injected self-esteem into a school that was thought of to be failing. The heroic actions initiated by Ms. Medley began when Thomas Jefferson High School was placed on a list marked for take over and subsequent closing by the New York State Education Department in 1993. As of December

1997, Thomas Jefferson High School was removed from the Schools Under Registration Review (SURR) List due to Ms. Medley's dynamic leadership.

Ms. Medley implemented several programs; (1) the Ninth Grade Preparatory Academy for Math and Science, which emphasized biology, sequential mathematics and technology. (2) the Marine Corps Junior ROTC—which strengthened character, helped form habits of self discipline, leadership and (3) the academy of Success—which graduated more special education students into the mainstream than in the schools history. Because of Ms. Medley's vision to have these unprecedented programs in an inner-city high school located in East New York Brooklyn, she has transformed this school successfully.

Ms. Medley holds degrees from Tennessee State and Fordham University. She has studied at Lehman College, Hunter College, and Harvard University.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Lean B. Medley, a 34 year veteran of education who cared enough to make a difference in the life of a child. She is truly an American Hero.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 35 on March 10, 1999, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO THE JAMESPORT
FIRE DEPARTMENT ON ITS 50TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in this hallowed chamber to pay tribute to the Jamesport Fire Department and to join the volunteer firefighters, emergency medical personnel and grateful people of this Long Island community as they celebrate the 50th anniversary of the fire department's founding.

I would like to tell my colleagues about Jamesport, a special place where neighbors look out for neighbors and every resident possesses a special pride in their hometown. In a service that exemplifies selfless heroism, the men and women of the Jamesport Fire Department perform above and beyond the call of duty each and every day. Compensated only by the satisfaction that their efforts surely save lives and protect property, these volunteers have answered every alarm for 50 years. I am proud and honored to count these brave firefighters among my friends and neighbors.

Moreover, I am proud to join with the Jamesport Fire Department in honoring five charter members for their 50 years of faithful service. Since 1949 these men have answered the siren's call whenever a fire or other peril threatened a member of the Jamesport community. Herbert Fleischman

has served as 2nd Lt., 1st Lt., Captain, 2nd Asst. Chief, 1st Asst. Chief and Chief. Walter Rolle has served as 2nd Lt., 1st Lt. and Captain. Raymond Zaleski has served as 2nd Lt., 1st Lt., Captain and a Fire Commissioner. Stanley Zaweski has served as 2nd Lt., 1st Lt. and Captain. And John Ziemacki has served as 2nd Lt., 1st Lt., Captain, 1st Asst. Chief, Chief, Fire Commissioner and was chosen Fireman of the Year in 1973. Time and again these brave men joined their comrades as they hastened to the scene, placing themselves in harm's way to aid another human being in danger, regardless of whether it be a friend, neighbor or stranger.

Demonstrating that true heroes are created over a lifetime of selfless acts and service to their God, family and country, these brave men of the Jamesport Fire Department are perfect role models for every volunteer firefighter who will come after them. They truly reflect the outstanding work of the Jamesport Fire Department and its commitment to training and service that keep their neighbors, friends and even their own children safe and secure. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me on this 50th anniversary in saluting the courageous, devoted volunteers of the Jamesport Fire Department. May God keep them safe as they have worked to keep safe the Jamesport community.

HONORING MS. JEANETTE
RUFFINS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Jeanette Ruffins for her exemplary community service, and her numerous contributions to the Brooklyn community.

Ms. Ruffins is currently the Executive Director of Genesis Homes, a 150 apartment, low income housing complex in East New York, Brooklyn. Genesis Homes is a service enriched complex that includes the Nelson Mandela Community Center. Ms. Ruffin oversees the daily operation of a Day Care Center, Primary Care Medical Services, G.E.D., Adult Basic Education, and a Boys & Girls Club site. The Boys and Girls Club provides recreation and leadership development for youth ages 6–18.

Ms. Ruffins has extensive experience in case management as well as social service administration and management. She has many years of experience with issues of victimization and domestic violence, including more than three years of experience with the Queens Safe Homes Program operated through the District Attorney's Office.

Ms. Ruffins has a Bachelors degree from Northwestern University and a Masters in Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Jeanette Ruffins, who has helped the underprivileged of our community, and has served as an excellent role model for countless individuals.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 34 on March 10, 1999, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, due to a family illness I was unable to attend votes this week. Had I been here I would have made the following votes:

Rollcall No. 34—aye; 35—aye; 36—no; 37—aye; 38—aye; 39—aye; 40—aye; 41—aye; 42—aye; 43—aye; 44—aye; 45—no; 46—no; 47—no; 48—no; 49—yes.

PROPERTY RESTITUTION IN THE
CZECH REPUBLIC**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern over recent setbacks in the return of expropriated properties to rightful owners in the Czech Republic. As Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, I have followed property restitution issues in Central and Eastern Europe over the past several years with an eye toward determining whether the restitution and compensation laws adopted in this region are being implemented according to the rule of law and whether American citizens' interests are protected under the laws. While restitution and compensation programs in several East-Central European countries have aspects of concern, today I want to bring attention to the status of restitution in the Czech Republic because of recent troubling developments there.

Since the Velvet Revolution, the Czech Republic has adopted laws that provide for the return of private property confiscated by Nazi or communist regimes. When the actual return of property is not possible, these laws offer former owners the right to receive alternate compensation. Regrettably, the Czech laws limit these rights to those who had Czechoslovak citizenship when the restitution law was adopted or who acquired citizenship before the deadline for filing restitution claims. As a result, former Czechoslovak citizens who fled to the United States seeking refuge from fascism or communism earlier this century, and are now American citizens, have been precluded from making restitution claims unless they renounce their American citizenship. Ironically, had these same individuals fled to Canada, Israel, or any country other than the United States, they would not have lost their Czech citizenship and would today be eligible

to receive restitution or compensation. This result stems from a treaty signed in 1928 by the United States and Czechoslovakia that automatically terminated a person's citizenship in the United States or Czechoslovakia if that person became a citizen of the other country. That treaty was terminated in 1997, but its impact remains: under Czech law, Czech Americans are not eligible for dual citizenship in the Czech Republic. Therefore, without abandoning the citizenship of the country that took them in during their time of need, the law denies them the right to receive restitution or compensation as others have. In other words, the citizenship requirement in the Czech property restitution laws discriminates against American citizens. Moreover, it is difficult for me to think that this discrimination was simply an unintended consequence.

In the 105th Congress, the House adopted my resolution, H. Res. 562, that urges the formerly totalitarian countries in Central and Eastern Europe to restore wrongfully confiscated properties, and specifically calls on the Czech Republic to eliminate this discriminatory citizenship restriction. In this regard, the resolution echoes the view of the United Nations Human Rights Committee (UNHRC) which has concluded in two cases that these citizenship restrictions violate the anti-discrimination clause (art. 26) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. I recently learned that the UNHRC has agreed to hear at least four more cases that challenge these restrictions.

The persuasiveness of the UNHRC's reasoning, when it determined that the citizenship restriction in the restitution law is discriminatory, was compelling. Unfortunately, the Czech Parliament last month debated and rejected a proposed amendment to the law that would have eliminated Czech citizenship as a condition for property restitution claims. This approach was widely considered the most effective remedy to a serious problem. In rejecting the amendment, the parliament missed an excellent opportunity to resolve this long-standing and contentious issue between the Czech Republic and the United States.

While I deeply regret the parliament's decision, I hope that the Czech Government will now seek alternative means to end the discrimination against Czech Americans. In January, several weeks before the parliament voted down the restitution amendment, Deputy Foreign Minister Martin Palous assured me that his government planned to propose a new citizenship law that would permit dual citizenship for Czech Americans. I was heartened to learn that last month the Czech Government introduced this amendment and it is my hope that its early passage will be followed by a re-opening of the claims filing period for those individuals who, by virtue of acquiring dual citizenship, will become eligible for property restitution or compensation.

Another disturbing situation involves the case of restitution to the "double victims" in the Czech Republic—those individuals, primarily Jews, whose properties were confiscated during World War II by Nazis and then again by the communists that swept the region in the postwar era. One case, for example, is that of Susan Benda who is seeking compensation for an expropriated house in the town of Liberec where her father and his brother grew up. Susan's grandparents were killed by the Nazis and her father and uncle

fled their homeland in 1939. The family home was "sold" in 1940 to a German company in an transaction subsequently invalidated by a 1945 Czech presidential decree.

In 1994, the Czech Parliament expanded its earlier restitution law to allow individuals whose property was originally confiscated by Nazis between the years 1938–45 to join those whose property was taken by communists in claiming restitution. Under the amended laws, Susan Benda is theoretically eligible to receive restitution of, or compensation for, the home in Liberec. Notwithstanding the Czech Government's purported intention to restore Jewish property seized by the Nazis, however, the Czech Ministry of Finance has arbitrarily imposed additional onerous and burdensome conditions for restitution that do not appear in the law and which, in fact, appear designed to defeat the intent of the law.

Beyond the citizenship requirement in the law, the Ministry of Finance has declared that claimants must prove that they were entitled to file a claim under a postwar 1946 restitution law, that they did file a claim, and that the claim was not satisfied. Remarkably, Susan Benda found a record in the Liberec town hall which establishes that her uncle returned to Czechoslovakia and filed a restitution claim in 1947.

Next, the Finance Ministry requires claimants to prove that a court expressly rejected the postwar claim. In a country that has endured the political and social turmoil of the Czech Republic over the past half-century, the notion that claimants in the 1990s must prove, not only that a court considered a certain case more than fifty years ago, but also must produce a record of the court's decision in the case, is outrageous. Susan Benda was able to produce a claim of title showing that the house was stolen by the Nazis in 1940, confiscated by the communist Czech Government in 1953 and purchased from the Czech Government in 1992 by its current owner-occupant. While Susan cannot produce a document showing that the court actually considered, and then rejected, her uncle's postwar claim, the chain of title and the witness testimony confirm that the Benda family never got the house back—in itself simple, dramatic proof that the postwar claim was not satisfied. Apparently, however, this proof was not sufficient for the Czech authorities and Susan Benda was forced to sue the Ministry of Finance.

Last September, more than three years after filing the claim, Susan Benda was vindicated when a Czech court agreed with her assertion that the Finance Ministry should not have attached the extralegal requirements for restitution. The court ordered the Finance Ministry to pay the Benda family compensation for the value of the expropriated house.

I wish Susan Benda's story could end here but it does not—the Czech Government has appealed the court decision apparently fearful that a precedent would be set for other claims—that is, out of a fear that property might actually be returned under this law. Thus, while the Czech Government proclaims its desire to address the wrongs of the past, those who, like Susan Benda, seek the return of wrongfully confiscated property are painfully aware that the reality is much different.

Another case that has come to my attention involves Peter Glaser's claim for a house in the town of Zatec. After the 1948 communist takeover in Czechoslovakia, Peter Glaser

sought to emigrate to the United States. To obtain a passport, Mr. Glaser was forced to sign a statement renouncing any future claims to his home. In 1954, Mr. Glaser became an American citizen; in 1962, the communist Czech Government officially recorded the expropriation of Mr. Glaser's home in the land records.

In 1982, the United States and Czechoslovakia signed an agreement that settled the property loss claims of all American citizens against Czechoslovakia. The U.S. Government agency charged with carrying out the settlement advised Mr. Glaser that, because he was a Czechoslovak citizen when his property was taken—according to the U.S. Government, this occurred in 1948 when Mr. Glaser was forced under duress to relinquish the rights to his house—he was not eligible to participate in the claims settlement program but must rather seek redress for his property loss under Czech laws.

When the post-communist Czech Republic passed a property restitution law in 1991, Peter Glaser filed his claim. In a cruel irony, despite presenting documentation from the U.S. Government attesting to the fact that Mr. Glaser was not eligible to participate in the U.S.-Czechoslovakia claims settlement program, the Czech Courts have repeatedly rejected his claim on the grounds that he was an American citizen at the time his property was taken—which, according to the Czech Government, occurred in 1962. The Czech Government asserts that Mr. Glaser's claims were settled and should have been compensated under the 1982 agreement. In other words, the current Czech Government and courts have adopted the communist fiction that although Mr. Glaser's property was expropriated in 1948, somehow the confiscation did not count until 1962, when the communists got around to the nicety of recording the deed.

This rationalization by Czech authorities looks like a back door attempt to avoid restitution. The reality of what happened to the property in Zatec is clear: Peter Glaser lost his home in 1948 when a totalitarian regime claimed the rights to his house in exchange for allowing him to leave the oppression and persecution of communist Czechoslovakia. As the Czech Government knows, communist expropriations—whether effectuated by sweeping land reform laws, as a condition or punishment for emigration, or under other circumstances—frequently went unrecorded in land registries, but that did not make the loss any less real for the victims. For the Czech Government today to cling to technicalities, such as the date the communists officially recorded their confiscation in the land registry, as a means to avoid returning Peter Glaser's home is a sobering indication of the Czech Government's true commitment to rectifying the wrongs of its communist past.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of property restitution is complex. No easy solutions exist to the many questions that restitution policies raise. Nonetheless, when a country chooses to institute a restitution or compensation program, international norms mandate that the process be just, fair and nondiscriminatory. The Czech Government has failed to live up to these standards in the cases I cited.

The Czech Government must end the discrimination against Czech Americans in the restitution of private property. Moreover, the rule of law must be respected. I call on the

Czech Government to reconsider its disposition in the Benda and Glaser cases. Czech officials often say that aggrieved property claimants can seek redress in the courts for unfavorable decisions. However, when claimants do just that, as did Peter Glaser and Susan Benda, the Czech Government asserts outrageous or technical defenses to thwart the rightful owner's claim or simply refuses to accept a decision in favor of the claimant. Fortunately, Mr. Glaser, Ms. Benda, and others like them, have pledged to fight on despite mounting costs and legal fees that they will never recoup. The passion and determination of Peter Glaser and Susan Benda, as of all victims of fascism and communism in Central and Eastern Europe, reveal that what may look to some as a battle for real estate is ultimately a search for justice and for peace with the past.

IN HONOR OF THE UNION COUNTY
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF
WOMEN AND THE WINNERS OF
THE 1999 WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE
AWARD

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Union County Commission on the Status of Women and the winners of the 1999 Women of Excellence award. This organization was established in September, 1989, and has dedicated itself to ensuring that women in Union County are treated fairly in the workplace. They continue to provide information and support to women that affects not only my district, but the whole state of New Jersey.

By providing this information to a number of governmental agencies, the Union County Commission on the Status of Women has played a central role in attaining and maintaining equality for women. They advise the Board of Chosen Freeholders in the policy and decisionmaking process of County government, recommend programs to promote the expansion of rights and opportunities available to women in Union County, and originate and implement comprehensive programs to meet the special needs, interests, and concerns of the women of Union County.

To accomplish this necessary and important task, the organization has consistently sought out the best and the brightest people to help them achieve their goals. They have been so successful in this venture that this year, twelve women are singled out for their drive, motivation, and accomplishment in guaranteeing that the rights of the women of Union County are protected. And, as they were singled out by the Commission, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize these women once again for their work and dedication:

Business—Nora Holley MacMillan of Summit

Community Service—Nancy Terrezza of Union Township

Education—Roberta T. Feehan of Elizabeth
Government—Charlotte DeFilippo of Hillside
Government—Senator Wynona M. Lipman of Newark

Health Care—Hazel H. Garlic of Elizabeth

Journalism/Public Relation—Adele Kenny of Fanwood

Law—Judge Susan M. McMullan of Westfield

Law Enforcement—Sergeant Nancy McKenzie of Rahway

Volunteerism—Glenda Magloire of Union County

Women's Advocacy—Mayor Geri Samuel of Scotch Plains

Women's Advocacy—Nellie Suggs of Westfield.

These women exemplify leadership and dedication to both Union County and the community at large. For these tremendous contributions to New Jersey and their incredible example as public servants, I am very happy to honor these individuals for their achievements. I salute and congratulate all of them on their extraordinary accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to inclement weather I was unavoidably detained in North Carolina this morning and was therefore unable to cast a vote on rollcall Votes 34, 35 and 36. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on rollcall 34, "YEA" on rollcall 35 and "YEA" on rollcall 36.

HONORING MS. RITA SCHWARTZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Rita Schwartz, for her exemplary community service, and for her numerous contributions to the Brooklyn community.

Ms. Rita Schwartz is the Director of Government Relations for the General Contractors Association of New York Inc., a trade organization representing the heavy construction industry. She is responsible for developing and implementing legislative and community strategies for the funding and building of the city's infrastructure system and is active politically in City Hall, Albany, and Washington. Ms. Schwartz is committed to developing opportunities for women and minorities in the construction industry and is involved in several organizations to help these groups gain access to various career opportunities.

Ms. Schwartz has served in the public sector for many years as Supervisor for Government Relations and Community Affairs with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. She was responsible for government and community relations and represented the Port Authority with civic, business, community groups and elected officials. In addition, she coordinated special projects and events and had an additional responsibility as Director of Homeless Service Programs for the Port Authority. Before working for the Port Authority, Ms. Schwartz was with the New York City Department of the Aging, the Health and Hospitals Corporation and the New York City Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

Ms. Schwartz is a lifetime resident of Brooklyn, she and her husband live in Brooklyn Heights where they raised their son and daughter. She served as a Board member of Community Board 2, and other community organizations. She received a bachelor's degree in music education from the State University of New York, Potsdam, a master degree from

New York University and a Ph.D. Teaching Fellow at New York University.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Rita Schwartz, who has helped our community and has served as an excellent role model.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Chairman, during roll-call vote No. 38 on March 10, 1999, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 16, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 17

- 8 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To resume hearings to examine the nature of risk management in agriculture and federal crop insurance programs. SR-328A
- 9 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-406
- 9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S.400, to provide technical corrections to the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to improve the delivery of housing assistance to Indian tribes in a manner that recognizes the right of tribal self-governance. SR-485
- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to mark up S.326, to improve the access and choice of patients to quality, affordable health care, and to consider pending nominations. SD-430
- Governmental Affairs
To resume hearings on the future of the Independent Counsel Act. SH-216
- Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the efforts to reform and streamline the Department of Defense's acquisition process. SR-222
- 10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans. 345, Cannon Building
- Energy and Natural Resources
Foreign Relations
To hold joint hearings on proposals to expand Iraqi oil for food. SD-419

- Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the Library of Congress, Congressional Research Service, General Accounting Office, and the Government Printing Office. SD-116
- Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for Air Force programs. SD-192
- Finance
To hold hearings on the implementation of 1997 Medicare changes to Medicare-Fee for Service and Medicare+Choice Programs. SD-215
- 10:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on loss of open space and environmental quality. SD-406
- 2 p.m.
Armed Services
Airland Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on tactical aviation modernization, and the future years defense program. SR-222
- MARCH 18
- 9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To resume hearings on loss of open space and environmental quality. SD-406
- Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for Civilian Radioactive Waste and Environmental Management programs. SD-124
- Armed Services
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, and the future years defense program. SH-216
- Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. SD-116
- 10 a.m.
Foreign Relations
East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the countdown to elections in Indonesia. SD-419
- Finance
To hold hearings to examine issues of the federal recovery of a portion of the tobacco settlement funds attributable to Medicaid. SD-215
- 10:30 a.m.
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold joint hearings to review United States policy and strategy for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in preparation for the OSCE Summit Meeting scheduled to convene in Istanbul this year. SR-485

- 2 p.m.
Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the readiness of the United States Air Force and Army operating forces. SH-216
- Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Energy, focusing on energy conservation, fossil energy research and development, and other related programs. SD-124
- Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters. SH-219
- 2:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
European Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings on issues relating to the European Union, focusing on internal reform, enlargement, and a common foreign policy. SD-419

MARCH 19

- 9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
To hold hearings on Medicare fraud issues. SD-124

MARCH 22

- 10 a.m.
Judiciary
Youth Violence Subcommittee
Criminal Justice Oversight Subcommittee
To hold joint oversight hearings to review the Department of Justice firearm prosecutions. SD-226
- 1 p.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine the quality of care in nursing homes. SH-216
- 1:30 p.m.
Governmental Affairs
Investigations Subcommittee
To hold hearings on securities fraud on the internet. SD-342

MARCH 23

- 9 a.m.
Aging
To hold hearings on a proposal to support family care givers. SD-106
- 9:30 a.m.
Judiciary
Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information Subcommittee
To hold hearings on issues relating to internet gambling. SD-226
- Governmental Affairs
Investigations Subcommittee
To resume hearings on securities fraud on the internet. SD-342

MARCH 24

- 9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S.399, to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. SR-485

10 a.m.
 Veterans' Affairs
 To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Retired Officers Association.

345 Cannon Building

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on active and reserve military and civilian personnel programs and the future years defense program.

SR-222

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S.323, to redesignate the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument as a national park and establish the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area; S.338, to provide for the collection of fees for the making of motion pictures, television productions, and sound tracks in units of the Department of the Interior; and S.568, to allow the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture to establish a fee system for

commercial filming activities in a site or resource under their jurisdictions.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine littoral force protection and power projection in the 21st century.

SR-232A

MARCH 25

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings on the economic impacts of the Kyoto Protocol to the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on issues relating to United States-Taiwan relations.

SD-419

APRIL 14

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the published scandals plaguing the Olympics.

SR-253

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of welfare reform for Indians.

SR-485

APRIL 21

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Bureau of Indian Affairs capacity and mission.

SR-485

SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

CANCELLATIONS

MARCH 18

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

S-146 Capitol