

When the war with Japan ended, the NSA phased out its Japanese section. Gardner learned that there was a section working on Soviet Union messages (its existence was kept secret) and he transferred into it. Gardner insists that the most arduous efforts to make the messages readable had already been done before he came along. First, the messages had to be sorted into at least four varieties, each used by representatives of separate Soviet government departments. It had also been discovered that some messages could be paired as having been "randomized" by the same pad and page carrying random additive digits (and hence were solvable).

Such mixed pairs were worked on by a small group of women led by Katurah "Katie" McDonald. This group had already produced a remarkable amount of code text, and the code-groups that had appeared so far had even been indexed in context by a card machine. The material was just awaiting the appointment of a linguist, and Gardner "appointed himself" to be it. It was the easy stage, but without it all the preparatory work would have been for nothing.

Gardner's reconstruction of the foreign intelligence (VENONA) code book was slow at first, but gained momentum. Because some recruits were named in the messages and given cover names, it became obvious that the FBI ought to receive translations of the cables. Special agent Robert Joseph Lamphere was assigned to be the (very efficient) link between the NSA and FBI. The next is history.

Gardner spent 27 years working on the "Russian problem" before retiring in 1972. He and his wife of 56 years, Blanche, who also worked for the Army Security Agency, now spend part of their time teaching Latin to a small group of students. I commend Mr. Gardner for the invaluable assistance he has given to our country, which we are only now beginning to realize and understand. I salute Mr. Gardner for his dedicated and important service.●

TRIBUTE TO MR. LARRY STOLTE, ON HIS RETIREMENT

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge and commend Mr. Larry Stolte as he retires from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Larry's career in New England began as a fisheries biologist in 1969 with the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, working on the introduction of Coho salmon in the Great Bay area. In 1975, he joined the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and became the Atlantic Salmon Planner for New England. Larry took the lead in developing an Atlantic salmon strategic plan for southern New England, and chaired the state committee that developed the Atlantic salmon plan for Maine's rivers.

While working to restore Atlantic salmon to New England's waterways, Larry began researching the "king of gamefish" in the Merrimack River. He documented his research in a book titled "The Forgotten Salmon of the Merrimack," which was published in 1981 and is recognized by many as the most accurate record of the history of the Atlantic salmon in the Merrimack River.

For the past 15 years, Larry has been the Fish and Wildlife Service's coordinator for anadromous fish restoration in the Merrimack River. He has also chaired the U.S. Atlantic Salmon Assessment Committee and has been a working member of the International Commission on the Exploration of the Seas' North Atlantic Salmon Working Group.

Larry has devoted his entire career to restoring anadromous fish to New England rivers. His dedication and perseverance has been an inspiration to those who have worked toward this effort. Upon his retirement from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Larry and his wife Tracy will reside in Montana. I would like to thank Larry for his hard work and dedication to the restoration efforts of New England Rivers. It is an honor to represent Larry in the United States Senate.●

OUR OUTSTANDING AMBASSADOR IN BEIJING—JIM SASSER

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President. I join many other Senators in welcoming our former colleague, Ambassador James Sasser, back to the United States after his outstanding service as our Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

America has vital foreign policy interests in China, and Ambassador Sasser has represented those interests skillfully and effectively for more than three years.

During his service as Ambassador, he has worked diligently to restore high level summitry between China and the United States. His able leadership has made the American Embassy in Beijing more responsive to the concerns and interests of American business. He has also worked tirelessly to promote dialogue with the Dalai Lama.

In the aftermath of the tragic, mistaken bombing of China's embassy in Belgrade in May, America's embassy in Beijing was under siege, and Ambassador Sasser was virtually held hostage in the embassy. During this extraordinarily difficult time, he ensured that American personnel were safe and accounted for. He displayed remarkable courage during this ordeal, and made America proud of him.

All of us who worked with Ambassador Sasser in the Senate knew he would excel when President Clinton nominated him for this position. I congratulate him on a job well done. We

are proud of his remarkable accomplishments and the efforts he has made to strengthen the U.S.-China relationship.●

HONORING KBHP RADIO FOR THE CRYSTAL RADIO AWARD

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a Minnesota radio station from Bemidji, KBHP-FM, for going honored with the 1999 Crystal Radio Award given by the National Association of Broadcasters. The Crystal Radio Award recognizes stations for their year-round commitment to community service. KBHP-FM was one of ten stations chosen to receive Crystals, making this their third award since 1987. Since the Award's inception in 1987, eight other stations in Minnesota have joined the ranks receiving the Crystal. These stations are WJON-AM in St. Cloud, KSJN-FM in St. Paul, WWTC-AM, WCCO-AM, KQRS-FM/AM in Minneapolis (twice), KCUE-AM in Red Wing, KWOA-AM in Worthington, and WLTE-FM in Minneapolis.

I congratulate KBHP-FM for this great achievement and enter into the RECORD a brief description of the Station's work from the Crystal Radio Award program.●

ROBERT B. CONROY

● Mr. LIBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert B. Conroy of Westport Connecticut. Captain Conroy is a dedicated Veteran of World War II, a proud family man, and a fine example of the powerful American Spirit that weaves it way through the nation's history.

A member of the 359th Fighter Squadron and the 356th Fighter Group, Captain Conroy's plane was shot down by German forces over France in January of 1944. Despite his injuries, Captain Conroy survived as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft I for sixteen months until the camp was liberated by Russian troops.

Captain Conroy's list of medals, including the Purple Heart and the Distinguished Flying Cross, only begin to tell the story about what makes him a true American hero. After his military career, Captain Conroy raised and supported a family while building a successful career in advertising. The principles of honor, integrity, and devotion to duty that he displayed during World War II have remained a critical part of his life and are the same principles he has instilled in his children. I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Captain Robert Conroy for his service, both military and civilian, to this great nation.●

TRIBUTE TO SY MAHFUZ

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Sy