During the mid-1980s, Pat went on to serve as Special Assistant to the President of Hahnemann University, once again with a unique focus on those projects and events that made the university the great educational institution that it was. As I have already indicated, for the past decade Pat has continued to ''give back'' to our nation by ensuring that future generations of Asian Pacific American health professionals will begin to appreciate their potential for excellence in leadership. Having had the opportunity of personally meeting with his Fellows as they come to Capitol Hill each year, I must say that I have always been extraordinarily impressed by their dedication and commitment to our nation. Pat Okura has truly been a visionary role model for all of us and the ultimate public servant. I wish him the best on this truly special occasion.●

THE INGHAM COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION 25TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate the Ingham County Women's Commission, as they celebrate their 25th Anniversary.

The Ingham County Women's Commission has taken great strides to meet the needs of women since it was founded in 1974. The commission, originally established to serve as a study and research center focusing on the issues concerning women in the county, was restructured in 1976 and took on an advisory role to the Board of Commissioners. They now focus on issues that impact the women of the county. They have continued their efforts in researching better ways to meet the needs of women through county resources.

What is truly remarkable about this select group is their dedication to helping enrich the lives of women. They work closely with the Equal Opportunity Commission to overcome discrimination against women. The commission also provides many important and beneficial services to women. Their greatest accomplishments include involvement with the New Way In and Rural Emergency Outreach and the provision of acquaintance rape education for high school students. Additionally, they have experienced vast success in helping raise awareness of women's issues by developing a sexual harassment policy for county employees, sponsoring the Ingham County Sexual Assault Task Force and the Michigan Council of Domestic Violence.

This important group of women are to be commended for their accomplishments over the last 25 years. Their hard work and dedication to conveying the importance of women's issues will benefit many women for years to come.●

LANE KIRKLAND

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, earlier today, there was a memorial service for former AFL–CIO president, Joseph Lane Kirkland, on the campus of Georgetown University. I was deeply saddened to hear of Lane's passing and would like to reflect for just a few moments on his life and his enormous contribution to organized labor in America.

Lane Kirland spent virtually his entire working life in the service of his country. As a young man, he enrolled in the first class of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and served the duration of World War II as a transport officer. Following the war, Lane went back to school, taking night classes at Georgetown, and received a degree in foreign relations in 1948. He intended to enter the foreign service and represent American interests abroad, but shortly after graduation he took a low-level research position with the American Federation of Labor.

That seemingly temporary sidestep would become the consuming mission of his working life. An unlikely labor leader, born of a well-to-do southern family and schooled in international relations, Lane became a strong advocate for justice in the workplace and a champion of human dignity. From 1948 until, some would say, the day he died, he fought for working people—for higher wages, better health care, and greater protections for workers health and safety. It is a credit to his skill, intellect and unflagging determination that he was elected president of the AFL–CIO in 1979, a post he faithfully held for 16 years.

Lane was a titan of the American labor movement. A man of great personal strength, Lane used his talent and energy to act upon his convictions, uniting people of diverse backgrounds and improving the lives of countless working families across this country and around the world. During Lane's tenure as president, organized labor faced ever-increasing challenges which called for strong, decisive leadership. With union membership declining across the country, Lane fought successfully to unite the Nation's largest and best-known unions under the AFL–CIO, guaranteeing the continued vitality of organized labor and ensuring it a position in American political discourse well into the 21st century.

His vision for trade unionism did not stop at the water's edge. Under Lane's stewardship, the AFL–CIO reached out to workers around the world. Like few others at the time, Lane understood the global struggle embodied in the cold war. He was a man of great insight, and he realized that a fair workplace could be used as a lever to create a fairer society. Ardently anti-communist, Lane believed personal freedom was the right of every man, woman, and child and saw the union as a vehicle of freedom. Thus, he supported trade unions in China, Cuba, South Africa, Chile, and Poland, where unions were severely suppressed and personal freedoms denied. When Solidarity assumed power in Poland, Lane's faith in the power of trade unions and lifetime of work to build them were irrefutably vindicated.

With Lane's passing, a bright light for trade unions has been extinguished. He will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Irena, and his family.●

TRIBUTE TO LANE KIRKLAND

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, over the August recess South Carolina lost one of her most distinguished native sons, Lane Kirkland. Unless you knew Lane personally, you weren't likely to know he was a proud South Carolinian. If you did know him personally, there was no way not to know he was a proud South Carolinian. He went to South Carolina regularly; sometimes to see his brothers Ranny and Tommy, sometimes just to go to the wonderful small town of Camden where he spent his childhood summers. Whenever we would meet, officially or not, we always spent some time talking about South Carolina.

Lane remembered and cherished his roots, but they did not bind him. He had grown up with people who could not see through their rich heritage to the future. Lane was acutely aware of this trap and he illustrated this brilliantly in a commencement address to the University of South Carolina in 1985.

> I owe to Sidney Hook a thought that I offer as my final conclusion from all this. From him I learned the difference between a truth and a deep truth. A deep truth is a truth the converse of which is equally true. For example, it is true, as Santayana said, that those who cannot remember the past are doomed to repeat it. Yet it is equally true that those who do remember the past may not know when it is over. That is a deep truth.

Lane Kirkland was a complex person as evidenced by his many contradictions. He was a Southerner who found his education and opportunity in New York; he descended from planters but had his first success as a sea captain; he was a child of privilege who became a self-described New Dealer; he was an intellectual who fought for miners and mill workers; and perhaps most importantly, he was a liberal anti-Communist.

Lane had many triumphs in his life, but none was so important as the leading role he played in the liberation of Eastern Europe and the fall of the wall. He committed the resources of the American labor movement to preserve Lech Walesa and Solidarity. The New York Post wrote that ''Kirkland must be included among a select group of leaders—including Ronald Reagan, Pope John Paul II and Lech Walesa—

who played a critical role in bringing about the demise of Communism.'' William Safire, no fan of organized labor, wrote this about Lane Kirkland and Lech Walesa: ''Together these two anti-Communist patriots fought the Soviet empire when the weak-kneed were bleating 'convergence'. Their refusal to compromise with evil exemplified the leadership that helped win—the word is 'win'—the cold war.''

As a South Carolinian and an American, I am proud of the central role that Lane played in the central struggle of this century. People in the United States and around the world know the exhilaration and opportunity that freedom brings in part because of Lane Kirkland. In his last speech in South Carolina, Lane addressed the South Carolina Historical Society. He opened by saying, ''I am honored to be here even though it suggests that I am history.'' In reality Lane Kirkland made history.●

TRIBUTE TO HEATHER RENEE FRENCH

● Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Heather Renee French of Maysville, Kentucky, on her recent crowning as Miss America 1999.

Ms. French is an outstanding young woman who made all Kentuckians proud of her impressive showing at this year's prestigious Miss America pageant. She made history with her win on September 18, 1999, as the first Miss Kentucky ever to be named as the reigning Miss America—and the goal to help homeless Veterans she's set for her year-long term will likely make history as well.

Though young, Ms. French has accomplished a great deal in her 24 years. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati (U of C) undergraduate program and a student in the U of C Masters of Design school, she currently teaches at the U of C design school, and is working on a textbook for college-level design students.

Her resume boasts extensive service and volunteer experience, including working with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, volunteering at VA hospitals and with the Statewide Vietnam Veterans Awareness Campaign. It is refreshing to see an intelligent, successful young woman who takes the time to spend unpaid hours working to help others.

According to post-pageant interviews, Ms. French has indicated that the top priority with her newly-won title is to lobby Congress on behalf of America's Veterans. The daughter of a disabled Vietnam Veteran, Ms. French has become acutely aware of the problems Veterans face and the obstacles they often have to overcome.

I also would like to congratulate the French family, as this is their victory as well. They are to be commended for the love and support they provided throughout Heather's life, and throughout what was surely a busy summer preparing for the September pageant. Her father, Ron, deserves recognition as the inspiration for Heather's strong desire to help America's Veterans and for the Purple Heart he earned during the Vietnam War. As a father, it would encourage me to know that my daughters had learned something from a parents' adversity that would drive them to help others with similar experiences.

My colleagues and I join in congratulating you, Ms. French, on your success and wish you all the best in what will surely be an exciting year.●

ALASKA NATIONAL GUARDSMEN RECEIVE MACKAY TROPHY

● Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to take this time to pay tribute to the men of Air Force Rescue 470, from the 210th Rescue Squadron in the Alaska Air National Guard. These five men, stationed at Kulis Air National Guard Base in Anchorage, Alaska, recently received the Mackay Trophy. The Mackay Trophy is given each year to the person or crew in the United States Air Force for what is considered the most meritorious flight of the year. The crew of Air Force Rescue 470 certainly deserve this prestigious award.

Let me tell you a little bit about the rescue they performed which led to this recognition. On May 27, 1998, six people, including two small children, flying in the Tordrillo Mountains, suddenly crashed into a glacier about 10,500 feet above sea level. These people were trapped in their plane, with darkness coming and the temperature dropping. Because they were not dressed for the extreme cold that would come, these six people would surely not survive the night.

Fortunately for them, they had some of the best trained, best equipped, and bravest men were on the way to the crash site. This was not an easy rescue by any means. It was already extremely cold, visibility was only ⅛ of a mile, the wind was anywhere between ten and forty knots, and the crashed plane was high up the mountain. Normally any one of these factors would make a rescue attempt extremely risky. But Air Force Rescue 470 had to contend with all sorts of deterrents in order to rescue these people before nightfall came.

The crew had to fly up to an altitude of over 12,000 feet because of the visibility problem. The thin air made it difficult for the helicopter blades to keep the aircraft aloft and for the men to breathe. As soon as a hole in the clouds appeared, they dove down into the mountainous terrain to land. The weather was only getting worse, and the pararescuers had only fifty minutes, because of the limited fuel supply, to pry open the wreckage of the downed plane, get everyone out, and get them all safely back to the helicopter, six hundred feet away. All six lives were saved.

Mr. President, I know that the crew of Air Force Rescue 470 were simply happy to be serving their country on this day back in May of 1998. I also know that they have made countless other rescues, just as have other Rescue units around the country. But I am especially proud that these fine young men of the Alaska Air National Guard were chosen for the Mackay Trophy. So to Lieutenant Colonel John Jacobs, the pilot, First Lieutenant Thaddeus Stolar, the copilot, Master Sergeant Scott Hamilton, Master Sergeant Steve Daigle, and Technical Sergeant Greg Hopkins, the pararescuers, I congratulate you. Both Alaska and the Nation thank you for your continued efforts to save lives.●

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1999

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until the hour of 9:30 a.m. on Friday, September 24. Further, I ask unanimous consent that on Friday, immediately following the prayer, 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 the Senate then resume consideration of the VA–HUD appropriations bill.

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

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the vote on the Wellstone amendment Senator KERRY of Massachusetts be recognized to offer his amendment which is on the list.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will convene at 9:30 a.m. Then following 2 minutes of debate, a vote on the Wellstone amendment regarding atomic veterans will take place. Therefore, Senators can expect the first vote to take place at approximately 9:35 a.m.

There are a few more amendments on the list that must be disposed of prior to final passage. Senators can expect votes throughout the morning. We will attempt to finish the bill by 11 o'clock in the morning.