

will bring their insight and innovation to the task of helping to end this epidemic.

I was proud to be a supporter of the legislation which established this group, and am pleased that such an eminently qualified Georgian has been selected to serve as a member. Mr. President, I offer my congratulations to Dr. Ball for this honor, and am confident that she will continue in her role of outstanding service and leadership to the youth of Georgia, and our country. ●

IN COMMEMORATION OF NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, the week of Nov. 21–28 is an important time for houses of worship and individuals of all religions across the country—National Bible Week.

As this year's National Bible Week co-chair, it is my privilege to pay tribute to the Bible and its remarkable influence on American life. As in past years, the National Bible Association is hosting the week-long salute to the Good Book. This year, the tribute happens to fall during the Thanksgiving holidays; this seems fitting, because we should be eternally thankful that we have the teachings of the Bible to help guide our daily lives.

And old maxim states that "A reformation happens every time you open the Bible." Indeed, no book over the course of human history has had a more profound effect on how we live and act. The Bible has influenced Western culture in myriad ways, shaping areas as diverse as government and art.

John Wycliffe, the great religious reformer, once wrote, "The Bible is for the government of the people, by the people, and for the people." The writings found within it inspired many of our nation's founders' most cherished ideals—ideals that remain cornerstones of democracy today. The Bible, for example, advocates faith in a greater good, the glory of freedom, the importance of family, and the sanctity of every human life. The Bible is at the heart of America's civic religion.

Far from archaic, the Bible is as important today as it has ever been, particularly as many Americans feel this country slipping into moral decline. Our best hope of righting our national ship is to instill in future generations the core values of love, truth, honor, and service enshrined in the Bible.

As an Orthodox Jew, my faith orders my life, gives me a sense of purpose and direction, and provides comfort in uncertain or difficult times. The Old Testament or Torah serves as a constant reminder of my obligations to God, country, and family.

So as Thanksgiving approaches, I encourage every believer in this land to open the Bible, read a favorite passage or two, and give thanks to God for this wonderful, sacred Book. ●

A TRIBUTE TO ERIC HARNISCHFEGGER

● Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I want to mention the efforts of Special Agent Eric Harnischfeger, who has been on detail from the U.S. Secret Service to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary for the consideration of the fiscal year 2000 bill. Eric has been a considerable asset to the subcommittee, astutely handling some of our more difficult law enforcement accounts. His management of counterterrorism programs, office of justice programs, and state and local law enforcement accounts is greatly appreciated. Eric's ability to provide keen insight and a friendly manner toward any task he is asked to deal with assured a competent resolution.

Eric's professionalism, wit, and jovial manner will be missed. Agent Harnischfeger exemplifies the high standards that the Secret Service is known for and has done an excellent job for us. I just want to thank him publicly for all his efforts over the past year. Based on his performance here, I am sure he has a bright future at the Service. We wish him the very best. ●

ON THE DEATH OF AKIO MORITA

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, today I rise to note the passing of Akio Morita, the brilliant Japanese business leader who did so much to rebuild his country after World War II. I ask that his obituary that appeared in the October 4 New York Times be printed in the RECORD.

The obituary follows:

[From the New York Times, Oct. 4, 1999]

AKIO MORITA, CO-FOUNDER OF SONY AND
JAPANESE BUSINESS LEADER, DIES AT 78

(By Andrew Pollack)

Akio Morita, the co-founder of the Sony Corporation who personified Japan's rise from postwar rubble to industrial riches and became the unofficial ambassador of its business community to the world, died on Sunday in Tokyo. He was 78.

Mr. Morita died of pneumonia, according to Sony. He had been hospitalized in Tokyo since August, after returning from Hawaii, where he had spent most of his time since suffering a debilitating stroke in November 1993. More than anyone else, it was Mr. Morita and his Sony colleagues who changed the world's image of the term "Made in Japan" from one of paper parasols and shoddy imitations to one of high technology and high reliability in miniature packages.

Founded in bombed-out Tokyo department store after World War II, Sony became indisputably one of the world's most innovative companies, famous for products like the pocket-sized transistor radio, the videocassette recorder, the Walkman and the compact disk.

And Mr. Morita, whose contribution was greater in marketing than in technology, made the Sony brand into one of the best known and most respected in the world. A Harris poll last year showed Sony was the No. 1 brand name among American con-

sumers, ahead of American companies like General Electric and Coca-Cola.

A tireless traveler who moved his family to New York in 1963 for a year to learn American ways, Mr. Morita also spearheaded the internationalization of Japanese business. Sony was the first Japanese company to offer its stock in the United States, in 1961, one of the first to build a factory in the United States, in 1972, and still one of the only ones to have even a couple of Westerners on its board.

Sony also became a major force in the American entertainment business, acquiring CBS Records in 1988 and Columbia Pictures, the Hollywood studio, in 1989. The latter purchase, however, turned into an embarrassing debacle as Sony suffered big losses in Hollywood.

A JAPANESE EXECUTIVE AMERICANS RECOGNIZED

In the process, Mr. Morita, with his white mane and quick tongue, became the unofficial representative of Japan's business community, generally working to smooth trade relations between his country and the United States, but sometimes stirring resentment in both countries with his pointed criticisms.

"He was truly a statesman par excellence in a business sense," Mike Mansfield, the former senator and United States Ambassador to Japan. "Internationally, he did more for Japan in a business sense than anyone else in Japan."

In Japan, Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi, who was one of several hundred people to visit Mr. Morita's Tokyo home following his death, called Mr. Morita "a leading figure who played a pivotal role in developing Japan's postwar economy," according to Kyodo News Service.

Sony's current president, Nobuyuki Idei, said in a statement, "It is not an exaggeration to say that he was the face of Japan."

To the day of his death, nearly six years after the stroke that removed him from an active role in business, he was still no doubt Japan's most famous business executive, and the only one many Americans could name or recognize in a photograph. Time magazine recently selected him as one of 20 "most influential business geniuses" of the 20th century, the only non-American on the list.

In his own country, where executives tend to be self-effacing, Mr. Morita was viewed as a bit flamboyant and arrogant. He was the first to fly around in a corporate business jet and helicopter. He appeared in a television commercial for the American Express card. He served on the boards of three foreign companies. He took up sports like skiing, scuba diving and wind surfing in his sixties. He cavorted with the rock star Cyndi Lauper after Sony bought CBS Records.

Shortly before he suffered his stroke, Mr. Morita made waves in his home country by saying that Japan was like a "fortress" and that its unique business practices were alienating its trading partners." Although there is much to commend in Japan's economic system, it is simply too far out of sync with the West on certain essential points," he wrote in *The Atlantic Monthly* in June 1993.

He advocated shorter working hours, more dividends for stockholders of Japanese companies and a sharp cutback in government regulation. Now, as Japan struggles through an economic slump that has lasted most of the decade, some of what Mr. Morita advocated is being adopted.

"Japan was coming closer to him and seeing the need for that kind of leadership," said Yoshihiro Tsurumi, professor of international business at the Baruch Graduate