

TRIBUTE TO PHIL BLAZER

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues Mr. BERMAN and Mr. SHERMAN, and I rise today to ask our colleagues to join us in honoring the extraordinary career of our dear friend Phil Blazer. Phil has dedicated his thirty-five-year career to serving the Jewish community as editor and publisher of the Jewish News and as an effective activist for important Jewish and human rights causes.

Phil began his career as an eager and wide-eyed seventeen-year-old radio announcer at KVFM in the San Fernando Valley of California. He moved to Minnesota for college and continued his radio career at KUXL, and quickly began a Jewish community radio program for Minneapolis and St. Paul. After college, he returned to KVFM as station manager and continued his Jewish community program in the San Fernando Valley. Phil's current radio program is now on KIEV and is heard throughout Southern California. He has many devoted listeners who depend on his program for news, perspective, and insight.

In 1977, Phil started a television program, which still airs today and is now carried in over 300 communities in Southern California. It is also broadcast in New York City and New Jersey on Sundays. His audience numbers over 250,000 people and he has become an icon to his audiences throughout the nation.

Perhaps Phil's greatest contribution has been his newspaper, The Jewish News, which he founded in 1973. Hardly a local paper, it now serves 73 countries worldwide. The Jewish News serves to connect distinct Jewish communities by sharing local, national and international news and trends. It is a beloved paper and a staple of Los Angeles Jewish life.

Phil's career has also been dedicated to human rights work and Jewish causes. He is a visionary leader who has worked to shape critical historical events. In 1973, he helped smuggle a Torah into Leningrad to support the Jews of Russia. In 1978, he traveled to Washington, D.C. at the invitation of former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to confer with the State Department and the White House as a participant in the redirection of U.S. Middle East policy.

Also in 1978, Phil attended the historic Begin/Sadat meeting in Jerusalem. The following year he aired a landmark broadcast of his radio program via satellite from the studios of Radio Cairo as the guest of Anwar Sadat.

Phil's philanthropic work continued in 1985 when he organized the now famous Operation Joshua, which succeeded in rescuing nearly 1,000 Ethiopian Jews from refugee camps in Sudan and resettling them in Israel. In 1992, Phil developed California legislation with Assemblyman Richard Katz that mandated a course of study about the Holocaust be taught in all California public schools. This bill was

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

signed into law by the Governor of California on September 21, 1992.

These are a few examples of Phil's tireless dedication to Jewish causes and human rights around the world. His real gift, however, is his compassion and love for humankind. While successfully building his own media empire, Phil has never lost sight of his commitment to better the human condition in every way possible. He is truly an example of one person making a difference in thousands of people's lives.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in honoring Phil Blazer for his remarkable accomplishments over the past thirty-five years and in wishing him continued success and happiness in all future endeavors.

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, February 1, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 2

9:30 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Public Health Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine gene therapy, focusing on promoting patient safety.

SD-430

Armed Services

To hold hearings on the situation in Bosnia and Kosovo; to be followed by a closed hearing (SR-222).

SR-253

10 a.m.

Budget

To hold hearings to examine federalism in the information age, focusing on internet tax issues.

SD-608

Finance

To hold hearings on the status of Internal Revenue Service reform.

SD-215

Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine world threats.

SH-216

2 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

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FEBRUARY 3

9 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine the proposed loan guarantee program, focusing on rural satellite and cable system delivery of local broadcast stations to viewers not having access to local television stations.

SR-328A

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings on current and future worldwide threats to the national security of the United States; followed by a closed hearing (SH-219).

SH-216

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

Budget

To hold joint hearings to examine modernizing the Federal Aviation Administration.

SD-608

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on the nomination of Eric D. Eberhard, of Washington, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship & Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation; and the nomination of W. Michael McCabe, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

Finance

To hold hearings on the nomination of George L. Farr, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; the nomination of Charles L. Kolbe, of Iowa, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; the nomination of Nancy Killefer, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; the nomination of Larry L. Levitan, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; the nomination of Steve H. Nickles, of North Carolina, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; the nomination of Robert M. Tobias, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; and the nomination of Karen Hastie Williams, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board.

SD-215

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Criminal Justice Oversight Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Report of the Commission on the Advancement of Federal Law Enforcement Commission Members.

SD-226

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

FEBRUARY 8

10 a.m.

Budget

To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2001.

SD-608

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 1879, to promote international monetary stability and