

Mr. Seagler experienced many sleepless nights as Japanese forces made countless attacks on his construction battalion that was located on the island of Guadalcanal. The campaign at Guadalcanal cost America a great number of lives before the United States decidedly took the island and changed the course of the Pacific Theater in World War II forever. Mr. Seagler played a vital role in America's course of action by directing a construction battalion whose job included providing a workable infrastructure for American troops and maintaining open supply lines in Guadalcanal.

These important construction battalions were known as "Seabees," but their name and recognition have since disappeared from our national memory. Mr. Seagler sweated his days away in order to sustain the American operations in the region. In addition, Al accomplished many great feats in the construction battalion while dodging the enemy's bullets, living in a disease-infested jungle, and laying down to sleep to the sound of the Japanese fighter planes bombing the Guadalcanal coast.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Seagler showed great courage and heroism as a soldier in World War II. Therefore, it is my privilege to acknowledge his honor and pride for our great Nation. Al is still an active citizen in Montrose, Colorado where he has served as a role model for both young and old. I commend Mr. Seagler for his distinguished service to the state of Colorado and our great Nation.

STATEMENT ON HOWARD AND  
RIETA PARK CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE GLOBE

**HON. ROB SIMMONS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 14, 2001*

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Howard and Rieta Park, a couple from my hometown of Stonington, CT, who, on June 10, 2001, concluded a 31,000-mile sailing journey around the world.

Traveling on their 53-foot Sparkman and Stevens yawl, named COMET, the Park's odyssey took them across the Caribbean, through the Panama Canal to the Galapagos Islands, across the Pacific to the French Marquesas, the Cooke Islands, Tonga, Fiji, New Zealand, and New Caledonia.

They trekked to the Great Barrier Reef along the Australian coast, across the Indian Ocean, around the tip of South Africa's Cape of Good Hope and through the southern Atlantic Ocean on their way to St. John, the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Parks finally came home to Stonington, where they began their journey in November 1998.

To plan to undertake such a daunting journey is impressive enough—to complete the journey is truly remarkable. The trip was not without danger. Howard Park spoke of one day when he saw what he believed to be a whale alongside their craft. As COMET neared the submerged figure it rolled and dove under the boat, lifting the entire vessel out of the water for a moment.

As the tail of the creature rose behind the yawl's rear, Howard Park did not see a whale's tail but the back fin of a shark. The 60-foot beast was a shy, basking shark, and the silently moving boat had startled it. Howard Park said the image of this giant tail rising out of the water would remain with him forever.

There were also sites of extraordinary beauty. The Parks had not seen land for 19 days when they approached the Marquesas Islands. They waited until dawn to pull into port, giving them the opportunity to watch the sunrise over the volcanic peaks of Hiva Oa. Describing what they saw, Howard Park said, "There were high, high mountain peaks and indescribably beautiful vegetation."

Why undertake such an intimidating journey? The answer lies within the heart and soul of mankind. We are inquisitive, and we dream. Throughout history men have sought to find out what lies beyond the next hill—what waits to be discovered beyond the horizon, and they have followed their dreams into reality.

That we might know the unknown we have traveled to the depths of the oceans and have reached far beyond our own globe to the distant stars. It is our nature to dream—and to try and satisfy that dream.

The Parks have experienced the journey of a lifetime. And why not! Life is a finite adventure. There is only one, certain end. We should make our voyage as sweeping, as productive, as positive, and as exhilarating as possible.

Reflecting on life's adventure, Theodore Roosevelt said, "He must long greatly for the lonely winds that blow across the wilderness and for sunrise and sunset over the rim of the empty world. His heart must thrill for the saddle and not for the hearthstone. The joy of living is his who has the heart to demand it."

I commend Howard and Rieta Park on their exceptional achievement. As we go through life, may we, like the Parks, treasure images that will remain with us forever. And like Theodore Roosevelt, may we realize that the joy of living is his who has the heart to demand it.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF SENATE  
AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
REGARDING TERRORIST  
ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST  
UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2001*

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to express for the people of Southeast Texas and for myself our sympathy for those who have lost loved ones in the horrible tragedy our country suffered yesterday.

I have received many messages of well wishes and sympathy from constituents and friends literally around the world. A member of the French parliament, for example, asked me to please transmit his profound sympathies to the U.S. Congress and the American people.

We thank you all for your prayers and support. The United States of America is strong, and will not be shaken by such a cowardly act which killed so many of our countrymen.

But, Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about a slightly different message than my colleagues have spoken of so far, a message about children. As adults, we have the ability to process this tragedy much differently than how our children process this. We must be sensitive to our children's needs, and give them an opportunity to discuss their feelings. I'd like to take a moment to paraphrase a column by Cordelia Anderson that I received this morning:

As adults, we need to be calm and focused for the children. We need to receive support from other adults, so that we are able to effectively guide our children. We must talk with our kids and listen to them, find out what their fears are, what their concerns are, and then try to address them as directly and as calmly as possible. We must try to reassure them that there are adults there to help them and to protect them, and after giving them time to talk and to share, to return them to their regular routine of school. Our children are worth the time that we take to do this, and it is indeed important.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the police, the firefighters, the emergency personnel and the magnificent citizens who sacrificed their lives or who are still helping in this disaster. My heart and the hearts of my constituents go out to the people of New York and of Washington, DC. I urge my fellow citizens to support our President as we take swift and decisive action against the persons who perpetrated this tremendously horrendous act of cowardice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this resolution, and I ask that God bless America.

TRIBUTE TO JOEY BISHOP

**HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 14, 2001*

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Joey Bishop is a great American. He began his work in the boxing industry in 1939 at the Dick Mettee Gym training boxers. In 55 years, Joey Bishop won 250 amateur bouts, 38 senior bouts, and has refereed 3,500 bouts. At the age of 72, his record of 288 wins and 0 losses remained unscathed when he retired after defeating Canadian Welterweight Champion Boysie Phillips. This most impressive victory gave him the Indianapolis Senior Boxing Welterweight Championship belt.

Joey Bishop is not only an excellent athlete, but he is also an Army Veteran. He participated in the Special Services Boxing Unit, and won the Pan American Lightweight belt in 1943, and the Pan Am Welterweight title in 1944. Joey has also served for over 15 years on the Ohio Boxing Commission.

It is my honor and a privilege today to pay tribute to Joey Bishop. It is a privilege and an honor to represent such a fine American, and I will always consider Joe as my friend.