

volts at 60 cycles. In order to use the British generator, the voltage output needed to be reduced. Master Sergeant Spielberg requisitioned a step down transformer however, he knew that would take six months or so to secure. In the meantime, by the use of a little "horse trading," he enlisted the help of some squadron mates to refurbish the unit's old generator which was then turned in as a spare and a new generator was issued.

The world over, U.S. soldiers, sailors and airmen used their common sense "to make do" when faced with challenging situations of all kinds. We didn't always do it "by the book," but we succeeded.

Master Sergeant Spielberg also redesigned some electrical circuitry because of a critical safety flaw that he discovered at great risk to himself. While performing maintenance on the squadron's large transmitter one morning, Master Sergeant Spielberg turned off the main power source so as to change the bands. Noting the red power light "out," he reached in to pull out the transmitter-turning coil. As he grabbed it, 2600-volts DC current went through his hand and sent him flying in the air. When he returned from seeing the medics, he inspected the transmitter and noticed the relay that controlled the power to the main transformer was "hot wired" to the power side so that the unit continually received power and could not be shut off. He immediately rewired the unit and drafted a correction notice to be distributed to the entire transmitter-user community.

Master Sergeant Spielberg also had the opportunity to fly combat missions. As the Japanese began their invasion of India with a focus on Imphal, his squadron was pressed to fly more missions. They supplied the British and Indian troops with food and ammo, and carried out the wounded. The aircrew soon became exhausted and "overflowed" so the Communications Officer looked to the ground crew. When asked if he would volunteer to fly, Master Sergeant Spielberg said, "Yeah, I'll go first!"—and he did. He flew missions as the radio gunner, at night, into Imphal, to resupply the troops and bring out the wounded.

Because of his extraordinary initiatives and many other forward-thinking actions, Master Sergeant Spielberg was awarded the Bronze Star medal with a citation that read:

Pursuant to the authority contained in Army Regulations 600-45, War Department, Washington, DC, 22 September 1943, the Bronze Star Medal is hereby awarded to Master Sergeant Arnold M. Spielberg, 15088831:

For meritorious service from 24 July 1942 to 16 October 1944 as communications technician. M/Sgt Spielberg originated numerous modifications and suggestions concerning radio equipment and procedures which were later put in use throughout the Army Air Forces. His untiring efforts and initiative

have rendered substantial aid to the operations of his squadron.

By command of Major General Davidson, Headquarters, Tenth Air Force, U.S. Army.

Upon the termination of hostilities in World War II, in the year 1945, all services made an effort to allow those who experienced the battlefields beyond our shores to return, as soon as possible, to their families and homes.

Often the records of their valorous service and the decorations they received had to follow. Given there were over 16 million who proudly wore the uniform of a service, this was a remarkable feat that was accomplished by a war-weary, but joyous nation.

Now, some 56 years later, I was honored to join the present Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, General Michael Ryan, in reviewing the records and expediting the conveyance of the Bronze Star Medal to Master Sergeant Spielberg.●

LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL BANK 2000
MALCOLM BALDRIGE NATIONAL
QUALITY AWARD RECIPIENT

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to applaud one of the many outstanding businesses in New Mexico and one that has distinguished itself remarkably today.

Today the Los Alamos National Bank was one of four recipients of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for the year 2000. Bill Enloe, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Los Alamos National Bank, and Steve Wells, President of the bank, were on hand to receive this distinguished award from President George Bush and former Commerce Secretary Norman Mineta.

While I was unable to attend the ceremony, I understand that the employees attending the ceremony from Los Alamos National Bank gave Bill and Steve a rousing reception that matched the magnitude of the award and the weight of the crystal presented to Bill and Steve.

Los Alamos National Bank (LANB) is an independent community bank in northern New Mexico that employs 167 employees and serves the communities of Los Alamos, White Rock and Santa Fe. LANB received the Baldrige award in the small business category.

While the Baldrige examiners and judges recognized LANB for its quality and business achievements, I would like to recognize LANB for its outstanding response in the wake of the Cerro Grande fire that struck in May 1999. LANB's decision to provide zero interest loans to those who lost their homes in the fire was not something mandated by the government, it was something they felt was the right thing to do. LANB's decision to postpone mortgage payments for residents was also the right thing to do. This type of

service is rare in today's business market, but truly reflective of what it means to be a community bank and one that provides exceptional service to its customers in times of prosperity and in times of need.

Years ago LANB recognized that if it wanted to remain an independently owned bank, it would have to rise above all other banks and strive for excellence. It's ability to accomplish that goal was recognized today. LANB now stands with only 39 previous Malcolm Baldrige Award recipients. I congratulate Bill, Steve and their fine staff on their accomplishments and commitment to the people of northern New Mexico.●

TRIBUTE TO EDDIE FROST

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, during my four years as a member of the United States Senate, I have traveled across the State of Alabama meeting with local community leaders. I am proud to say that I have developed close, personal friendships with many of these folks. However, in all of my travels around the state, and meetings with public officials, I have enjoyed none more than getting to know Eddie Frost, the Mayor of Florence, Alabama, who died on March 15 after a battle with leukemia.

Florence, AL is a wonderful city with a population of 36,000 people. It is located on the banks of the Tennessee River in northwest Alabama, and it is the largest city in the Shoals area. Eddie Frost was raised in the Shoals, graduated from Sheffield High School, and then he graduated from Florence State University in 1961, which is now the University of North Alabama. Before becoming mayor of Florence, Eddie Frost was a teacher and coach at Bradshaw High School in Florence. In 1976, he coached the Bradshaw basketball team to a 6A state championship, and was recognized as the Alabama Coach of the Year.

He was first elected Mayor of Florence in 1984 when the city moved to a mayor-council form of government. He inherited a city with a bleak economic forecast and a high unemployment rate. Throughout his life, however, Eddie Frost always had a vision for bigger and better things. He immediately put to work his positive spirit, his high energy level, and his unsurpassed dedication to Florence. He helped the city revitalize downtown Florence, and today, the downtown area is booming.

He also worked tirelessly to see the Patton Island Bridge completed across the Tennessee River. I remember vividly during my campaign for the Senate, he took me up in the Florence Renaissance Tower and pointed out some lonesome concrete supports standing out in the middle of the river. There was no doubt how strongly he