I further ask unanimous consent the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD, that the President be immediately notified, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE ARMY


U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Joseph M. Cosumano, Jr., 0000

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Tim S. McClain, of California, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2001

Mr. DeWINE. On behalf of Majority Leader Lott, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn under the provisions of the adjournment resolution H. Con. Res. 93 until 12 noon on Monday, April 23, 2001. I further ask consent that on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal or 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 begin a period of morning business until 2 p.m. with Senators speaking for up to 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions; Senator Durbin or his designee, 12 noon until 1 p.m.; Senator Thomas or his designee, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, again, on behalf of Majority Leader Lott, I announce on Monday at 2 p.m. the Senate will begin the appointment of committees process with respect to the budget resolution. A vote is not necessary with respect to those motions, and therefore no votes will occur during Monday's session.

Also, during that week, the Senate may be expected to consider S. 350, the brownfields bill, as well as other authorization bills that may be cleared.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO REPORT

Mr. DeWINE. I ask unanimous consent that committees have between the hours of 12 noon and 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17, 2001, to hold committee-reported legislative and executive items.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DeWINE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask that the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 93 following the remarks of Senator Byrd.

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

Mr. Byrd. Mr. President, I thank the Chair and I thank the distinguished Senator from Ohio.

PRAISE FOR BUDGET MANAGEMENT

Mr. Byrd. Mr. President, allow me to express my appreciation to Mr. Domenici and Mr. Conrad for the excellent way in which they handled the concurrent resolution on the budget. They were fair, they were considerate, and they were very skillful in their performance. I also thank our two leaders, Mr. Lott and Mr. Daschle, for the excellent guidance they gave through their respective caucuses. I also thank my friend, the senior Senator from Alaska, who is presiding over the Senate, for his friendship and for his excellent leadership on the Senate Appropriations Committee. I wish him and his lovely wife and family, especially for Lily, a happy Easter holiday.

EASTER

Mr. Byrd. Mr. President, some years ago I read a story by Tolstoy titled, "How Much Land Does A Man Need?" Inasmuch as a considerable time has gone by since I last read this story, perhaps I shall say at the beginning that I am largely summarizing the story.

The story told of a man who had land hunger. He had orchards and vast other properties, but he could never get enough land. One day there stood in his presence a stranger who promised him all the land that he could cover in a day for 1,000 rubles. The conditions were that he would have to start at sunrise and that he could travel all day and buy as much land as he could cover in a day for 1,000 rubles. He would be required to return to the starting point by sundown; otherwise he would lose both the land that he had covered and the 1,000 rubles. So the man started out at last to get enough land. He took off his jacket, and as he surveyed the land before him, he thought that this was certainly the richest soil that he had ever seen and the land was so level that he felt that nothing could be better. He tightened his belt, and with the flask of water that his wife had provided to him, he began his journey.

As he walked on, he became more and more rich.

He completed the second side just as the Sun crossed the meridian. He sat down and ate the bread and the cheese that had been prepared by his wife. He drank most of the water from the flask, and then turned upon the third side. He completed the third side when the Sun was fairly high still in the heavens, but he was becoming quite tired. He took off his boots, which were becoming heavy, and he pressed on. He turned upon the fourth side. But strangely enough, the land became less level and more hilly. His arms and legs were scratched by the briars, and his feet had been cut by the stones. The whole landscape had changed to the extent that it was very adverse to his being able to continue at the same pace as in the beginning.

The Sun kept dropping closer and closer to the horizon. He kept his eye on the goal. He could see the stranger, waiting at the starting point. His servant had accompanied him and had placed a stake at each corner as a marker for the ground that had been covered.

As the Sun was sinking low, the man had become very tired and no longer could he walk upright. He had to crawl on his hands and knees. He could see the dim face of the stranger waiting at the starting point, and upon that stranger's face was a cruel smile. The man reached the starting point just as the Sun went down, but he had overtaxed his strength and he fell dead on the spot.

The stranger, who was called Death, said: "I promised him all the land he could cover. You see how much it is: 6 feet long, 2 feet wide. I have kept my pledge." The servant dug the grave for him.

The moral of the story is this: that the love of material things and the greed for gain shrivel the soul and leave the life a miserable failure at last.

As we approach the blessed season of Easter, it seems to me to be appropriate to reflect a bit about these things which are put on much less when compared with discussions concerning budget resolutions, taxes, projected surpluses, and so on. But once in a while I think it is good to return to the...
April 6, 2001

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

5973

Not too long ago, a majority of the Kansas State Board of Education acted to ban the teachings of Darwin—Charles Robert Darwin, a great British naturalist, concerning evolution in the classroom. There was an aroused interest in the subject. A new Board of Education recently restored evolution to the state science curriculum.

Several years ago, I read Charles Darwin’s “Origin of the Species.” I also read his book “The Descent of Man.” I wanted to know what Darwin was saying. My intellectual curiosities were piqued. I wanted to read firsthand his theory about natural selection.

But reading Darwin did not shake my faith in a Creator. Reading Darwin only strengthened my belief in God’s word, and strengthened my belief in the Creator, strengthened my belief in the Bible as a book that was written by man, but written through the inspiration from God.

Now, let me say, I do not claim to be good. My Bible says that no man is good. But I do claim to have been inspired by wonderful reasons. They were not very well educated. They did not have much by way of this world’s possessions. They could not give me much of anything. But they gave me their love, and they taught me to believe in the Scriptures.

And so the chronological account of the Creation—and I hold it right here in this book—as related in the Book of Genesis, seems to confirm my understanding of the chronology of Creation as outlined by science. I have done considerable reading of both—these Scriptures, and books and theses and materials on science.

I have three wonderful grandsons and two granddaughters remaining after the death of the oldest grandson. Two of these grandsons are physicists. They have their Ph.D.s in physics, not political science, which would be much easier, I suppose.

I have two fine sons-in-law, one of whom came to this country from Iran, of all places, and who, by the way, is also a physicist.

So my family is well equipped to help maintain this country’s cutting edge in physics.

I am not a physicist, and I am not a scientist, and I am not a minister. I do not consider myself to be worthy of standing behind any altar in a church. But I do steadfastly believe in the Bible. I believe in its teachings. And I believe that the account in Genesis is, in my way of looking at it, the greatest scientific essay that was ever written.

That Book of Genesis seems to confirm my understanding, as limited as it may be, of the chronology of Creation, as outlined by the scientific articles that I have read.

And, after all, how God made man is not so important; but what is important is that God, a superior intelligence, did make man. The doubters, the skeptics, the non-believers, all of these go out of their way to dispute the account of the Creation as presented in Genesis.

But there is the hope and the promise to meet the eternal judge and give an account of our lives. I believe it. That is what I believe.

My grandson was killed in a truck crash, and he died on the Monday morning after Easter Sunday in 1982. So the day itself has a particular significance to me.

I remembered that Mary and Martha in the Scriptures went to the tomb subsequent to the crucifixion of Our Lord. When the tomb was opened, they saw an angel who said to them: “He is risen.”

So, if we didn’t have that promise to which we can look forward, life would be pretty bleak indeed.

We live now in a very materialistic age. Things are quite different than they were when I was a lad walking in the hills of Mercer County and Raleigh County, WV. Times have changed immeasurably.

But there are some things that don’t change. And one of the things that hasn’t changed in my life is the belief, as I was taught in the beginning, that there is a Creator, and that there will come a time when each of us will have to meet the eternal judge and give an accounting for our stewardship during this earthly journey.

I believe that.

I find myself quite out of step from time to time in this materialistic age and this increasingly materialistic society, for to express one’s belief in a Supreme Being who created the heavens and the Earth, who made man in his own image, and made provision for a life beyond the grave, is looked upon by some as a lack of cultural sophistication.

One who adheres to traditional religious beliefs these days will quite often find himself the possessor of views that are incompatible with a modern outlook.

Traditional religious beliefs are a thing of the past in some quarters. Our intellectual culture in this country, as we stand at the beginning of a new century, and at the beginning of a new millennium, appears to be dominated by skepticism, cynicism, agnosticism, and, alas, to some degree atheism.

But I do steadfastly believe in the Bible. I believe in its teachings. And I believe that the account in Genesis is, in my way of looking at it, the greatest scientific essay that was ever written.

So, let the cynics, the doubters, and the skeptics answer God’s challenge: “Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding.

Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? Or who hath stretched the line upon it?

‘Whereupon are the foundations thereof? Or who laid the cornerstone thereof?

‘When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?’

My reading of the theory promulgated by that great English naturalist, Darwin, leads me to conclude that there is something to what Darwin is saying, but let us not carry it too far. I have no problem with putting God’s word as revealed in the Holy Bible right up against the teachings of evolution. I have no problem with that. So I have no problem with teaching the theory of natural selection, as suggested by Darwin, Huxley, and others. But I believe that if the Darwinian theory of evolution is to be taught in the classrooms of the Nation, the biblical account of Creation and other teachings of the Bible should likewise be presented so that the inquiring young man or woman may have a better understanding of both. Now, I understand the constitutional problem that might arise from such.

The point is, that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion,” but I take this first amendment prohibition also to mean that Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of “anti-religion.” If high school students are to be taught a theory, such as evolution—I have no problem with that—which may result in non belief concerning God, non belief in religion, it seems to me that if we are really interested in the search for truth, the search for knowledge, the search for wisdom, then the student should have equal access to the account of Creation as set forth in the Book of Genesis.

I believe that, just as children should be taught the difference between right and wrong, they should also be exposed to the teachings of Holy Writ as well as the claims made by proponents of Darwin’s theory of evolution.

Now, I am not here today suggesting that anybody else needs to be a Baptist just because I am a Baptist, or be a Methodist or be a Presbyterian or be an Episcopal or be a Catholic or be of the Jewish religion, or of the religion of Islam. I have already stated...
that one of my sons-in-law is an Iranian. His father was a devout—devo-
out—worshipper in the religion of Islam.

I am like Samuel Adams. I am not a
bigot. I can listen to anybody’s prayer and
will listen to anybody’s prayer. But now, back to the subject.

I personally find the theory of evolu-
tion as set forth in Darwin’s book “The Origin of Species” to be an enor-
mous piece of work, a marvelous, mar-
velous display of knowledge on the part of
that great naturalist. It reflects great scholarship. It’s so deep—I
am not hesitant about saying it at all—but it also contains a great, a huge
number of guesses, hypotheses, conjectures, presumptions, assumptions,
mere opinions, and considerable guess-
work.

For example, such phrases as the fol-
lowing are sprinkled throughout Dar-
win’s Origin: “We may infer,” “has probably played a more important
part,” “it is extremely difficult to
come to any conclusion,” “seems prov-
able,” “may be safely attributed to
the domestic duck flying much less and walking more, than its
wild parents,” “I am fully convinced that the common opinion of naturalists
is correct,” “hence, it must be as-
sumed,” “appears to have played an
important part,” “seems to have been the predominant power,” “something,
but how much we do not know, may be
attributed to the definite action of the
conditions of life.” “Some, perhaps a
great, effect may be attributed to the
increased use or disuse of parts.”

Additional examples are these: “It is
probable that they were once thus con-
nected;” “that certainly at first ap-
ppears a highly remarkable fact,” “it
may be the case that we have the good rea-
son to believe,” “it may be believed,”
“these facts alone incline me to believe
that it is a general law of nature,” “I
conclude that,” “we must infer,” “we
may suppose.” “I do not suppose that
the power over so many regions is
“it is far more probable,” “nor do I
suppose that the most divergent vari-
eties are invariably preserved;” “if we
suppose,” “but we have only to suppose
the steps in the process,” “thus, as I
believe, species are multiplied and gen-
ers are formed,” “may be attributed to
disuse,” “we must suppose,” “we may
conclude that habit, or use and disuse,
have, in some cases, played a consider-
able part in the modification of the
Constitution and structure,” “I sus-
pect,” “it seems to be a rule that when
any part or organ is repeated many
times in the same individual, the num-
ber is variable, whereas the same part
or organ, when it occurs in lesser num-
bers, is constant,” “the fair presump-
tion is,” “it must have existed accord-
ing to our theory, for an immense pe-
riod in nearly the same state;” the
most probable hypothesis to account
for the reappearance of very ancient

characters, is that there is a tendency
in the young of each successive genera-
tion to produce those long like character,
and that this tendency, from unknown
causes, sometimes prevails:” “by my
theory, these allied species are de-
scented from a common time;” “if my
theory be true,” “must assuredly have
existed,” “we may not believe,” “I
could go on and shall, indeed, go on
for a brief moment. How long is a brief
moment?

Here are some more: “it is inconceiv-
able,” “it is therefore highly prob-
able,” “it may be inferred,” “nor is it improbable,” “these organs must have
been independently developed,” and so
on, and so on, and so on and on.

Strange, isn’t that, while many of
the devotees of Darwinism are agnos-
tics, or even outright atheists, their
idol shows no compunctions with ref-
ence to a supreme being?

Let me quote Darwin. I have been
quoting Darwin, but I want to quote
Darwin to show that he has no com-
punction with reference to a supreme
being. He says:

May we not believe that a living optical in-
strument might thus be formed as superior
to one of glass as the works of the creator
are to those of man.

Darwin himself poses the key ques-
tion. This is the key question, and it is
meant for all of us. It will make us
and think.

This is what Darwin asked:

Have we any right to assume that the Cre-
ator works by intellectual powers like those
of man?

That is the question. That is where
so many of us in this intellectual age,
this cyclical age, that is where so many
of us trip over ourselves because we at-
tempt to square God’s Intelligence with
our own. And thus, we become unbe-
lievers or doubters simply because we
can’t conceive of all of the marvels of
creation and how they came about.

Therefore, again, I cite this question
by Darwin:

Have we any right to assume that the Cre-
ator works by intellectual powers like those
of man?

Of course, with man’s finite, limited
intellectual powers, man finds it dif-
cult to conceive of that which his own
punny mind cannot embrace. Hence,
while the skeptics doubt the Biblical
account of creation, they seem to go
out of their way to find alternative
theories. The problem is that the alter-
atives they propose border on the
ab-
surd.

Beyond all credibility is the credulous-
ness of atheists who believe that
chance could make a world, when it
cannot build a house.

Some scientists say that life, and
man himself, was the outcome of ran-
dom mechanisms operating over the
years had, from the beginning, appar-
ently been directed toward the creation
of the byproduct of material forces ran-
ning apart at the seams. It is not a uni-
verse that was preplanned from the
very first nanosecond of the cosmos’
Bang, life was preplanned from the
very first moment. How long is a brief
moment?

In order that life might be produced,
everything had to be just right from the
very start—everything from the funda-
mental forces of the universe, from the
fundamental forces of physics—gravity,

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

April 6, 2001

emergence of human beings. Human
life did not come about by accident,
the byproduct of material forces ran-
domly churning over the ages, the
fundamental constants of gravitational
force and electromagnetic force nec-
essary for producing life in the uni-
verse.

I have to believe that the evolution
of the universe over many billions of
years had, from the beginning, appar-
ently been directed toward the creation
of human life. From a very limited
reading, I find that even the slightest
tinkering with the value of gravity, or
the slightest alteration in the strength
of the electromagnetic force, would
have resulted in the wrong kind of
stars, or no stars at all. Any weakening
of the nuclear “strong” force would
have resulted in a universe consisting
of hydrogen and not a single other ele-
ment. That would mean no oxygen and
no water—nothing but hydrogen. Even
the most minuscule tinkering with the
fundamental forces of physics—gravity,
emergence of human beings. Human
life did not come about by accident,
the byproduct of material forces ran-
domly churning over the ages, the
fundamental constants of gravitational
force and electromagnetic force nec-
essary for producing life in the uni-
verse.

I have to believe that the evolution
of the universe over many billions of
years had, from the beginning, appar-
ently been directed toward the creation
of human life. From a very limited
reading, I find that even the slightest
tinkering with the value of gravity, or
the slightest alteration in the strength
of the electromagnetic force, would
have resulted in the wrong kind of
stars, or no stars at all. Any weakening
of the nuclear “strong” force would
have resulted in a universe consisting
of hydrogen and not a single other ele-
ment. That would mean no oxygen and
no water—nothing but hydrogen. Even
the most minuscule tinkering with the
fundamental forces of physics—gravity,
entirely of helium, without protons or atoms, a universe without stars, or a universe that collapsed back in upon itself before the first moments of its existence were up. Even such basics of life as carbon and water depend upon "fine-tuning" at the subatomic level.

Think for a moment about the very nature of water, H2O, which is so vital to life. Unlike among the molecules, water is lighter in its solid form than in its liquid form. Ice floats. Every country boy knows that—a country boy like I. Let us imagine for a moment that long ago ice floats—not just Ivory soap, but ice floats. If it did not float, the oceans would freeze from the bottom up, killing all forms of life there in, and the Earth would now be covered with solid ice.

Witness the vast order that pervades the universe! Could random variation have, even in the longest stretch of the imagination, created such magnificent order in the universe? Could chance have hit upon the order that we see all around us? To believe that it could is to believe that a monkey with a typewriter would eventually type the complete works of Shakespeare. But would he? Would he not more likely produce an infinity's worth of gibberish? Regardless of the number of days or the length of time available, what monkey could ever provide a single day's worth of typing Shakespeare—by random, by accident, by chance—let alone the complete works? The works of Shakespeare are complex enough, but they are small potatoes compared to the universe.

Random selection is not the magic bullet that some biologists would hope. One cannot explain away the order in nature by reference to a purely random process. To pretend otherwise is the stuff of science fiction.

Mr. President, as we depart this city for the holidays, let us remember the old, old story. Let us pause at Easter time and think on these things. I close my old, old story. Let us remember the old, old story. Let us pause at Easter time and think on these things. I close my old, old story. Let us pause at Easter time and think on these things. I close my old, old story. Let us pause at Easter time and think on these things. I close my old, old story. Let us pause at Easter time and think on these things. I close my old, old story. Let us pause at Easter time and think on these things. I close my old, old story. Let us pause at Easter time and think on these things. I close my old, old story. Let us pause at Easter time and think on these things. I close

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session, and I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of the following nominations, and further that the Senate immediately proceed to their consideration: Chris Spear and Kristine Ann Iverson.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

Chris Spear, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Kristine Ann Iverson, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

NOMINATION OF CHRIS SPEAR

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I rise today in support of President Bush's nomination of Chris Spear to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Policy. I truly believe that President Bush could not have selected a more competent person for this crucial position nor could he have picked a person of better character. Chris served as my Legislative Director for over a year before his nomination. In that time, I found his counsel to be invaluable and of great aid in forwarding my legislative priorities, and I am proud to say that he is not only a former employee but also a good friend. And, I know that I am not alone in wishing Chris well today. Chris has previously served on the staffs of my good friends Senator Enzi and former Senator Alan Simpson. I wish Chris the best of luck in his new position and continued success in his career.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the Chair and I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no further business to come before the Senate, the Senate stands adjourned until the hour of 12 noon on April 23, under the previous order.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 4:02 p.m., adjourned until Monday, April 23, 2001, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate April 6, 2001:

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

THELMA J. ASKEY, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, VICE J. JOSEPH GRANDMAISON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

PITVUE JINDAL, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE MARGARET ANN HAMBURG, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CHARLES A. JAMS, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE JOEL I. KLEIN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MARRA CINO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND DIRECTOR GENERAL, OF THE UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COMMERICAL SERVICE, VICE MAJESTY E. SHARING.

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DONALD A. LAMONTAGNE, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. LANCE W. LORD, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. TIMOTHY A. KINNAN, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. RICHARD V. REYNOLDS, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ROY R. BEAUCHAMP, 0000

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. GARY L. PARKS, 0000

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

WADE F. BORN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FAMILY SUPPORT, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE OLIVIA A. GOLDEN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SCOTT WHITAKER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE RICHARD J. TARPLIN, RESIGNED.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive Nominations Confirmed by the Senate April 6, 2001:

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

TIM S. MCCLAIN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.