

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

VFW OUTLINES CONCERNS,  
PRIORITIES TO CONGRESS

## HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 8, 1993

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, on March 2, the commander in chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Mr. John M. "Jack" Carney, appeared before the Joint House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees to deliver the organization's concerns and priorities. Commander Carney, a Navy veteran of the Korean war, presented a very straightforward assessment of the state of veterans' benefits and services.

As Commander Carney pointed out, veterans' programs have not contributed to our country's economic woes and certainly should not bear an undue burden in helping to reduce the budget deficit. I am particularly proud of VFW and other veterans' groups who, in addition to the sacrifices they have already made in uniform, are offering to pitch in to help resolve our economic problems, as long as they are treated as fairly as all other beneficiaries of Federal programs. Mr. Speaker, you can't be more reasonable than that.

I am pleased to share with my colleagues the full text of Commander Carney's statement:

STATEMENT OF JOHN M. CARNEY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

Messrs. Chairmen and members of the committees: It is with great pleasure that I appear before you this morning to address this joint meeting of the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees. With me today in this hall are the leaders of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. These outstanding individuals are the elected national and state officers of the VFW, representing the grass roots membership of an organization comprised of a truly representative cross section of American men and women. I am pleased and honored that these great Americans and true patriots are here with me today.

I am pleased that I can say to you this morning that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States continues as a dynamic and vibrant organization. Combined with our great Ladies Auxiliary, the VFW represents a force of patriotic men and women nearly 3 million strong. We believe that our 37 years of continuous growth attest to the fact that overseas veterans recognize the importance of joining a veterans organization that stands up and speaks out for them, their families and their country. We are particularly proud that large numbers of younger veterans, such as those who served in Panama and the Persian Gulf, are joining the Veterans of Foreign Wars. We believe these younger veterans recognize that the VFW is an organization that is willing and able to take a strong and effective stand on issues of importance to America and her veterans.

Messrs. Chairmen, for many years the VFW has enjoyed a close professional rela-

tionship with the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees. We look forward to continuing to work with you, Chairman Montgomery, and we welcome Senator Rockefeller to the chair of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee. While we will not always agree, there should be no question that we are in total agreement that veterans are the most deserving segment of our population and that their well-being is our foremost goal. I can assure you that the VFW, through our outstanding Washington Office, will work with you and your respective staffs in achieving our common goals.

In September of each year, the newly elected leadership of the VFW meets in Washington, D.C., for the purpose of reviewing the resolutions passed by the VFW membership at our national convention. At that time, VFW leaders also discuss and formulate legislative priorities for the coming year. Today, it is my pleasure to present to you those issues we deem to be of the highest priority and urge your immediate attention.

Messrs. Chairmen, today, we are witnessing the dawn of a new administration. All Americans are hopeful that our newly-elected President will be successful in keeping pledges made during the campaign to improve our economy, create jobs for our people and build a strong fiscal foundation upon which we can grow and prosper. To accomplish his goals President Clinton now calls upon our population to sacrifice. We acknowledge the need for fiscal restraint and reform; however, we hasten to point out to members of the committees that the hundreds of veterans gathered in this room today, the hundreds that are standing in the halls outside this room, and the tens of thousands of combat veterans who make up the VFW throughout this nation—true patriots whose contributions cannot be challenged—have already offered up their fair share of sacrifice. These individuals answered their country's call to arms and now simply call upon you to preserve and protect their hard-earned benefits and entitlements.

## THE BUDGET

The Clinton Administration has yet to submit a federal budget for FY '94; however, we foresee the shape and substance of this year's budget to be heavily influenced by the turbulent dynamics of this nation's economic and political environment. We fear that in keeping with recent history, this Administration will also submit a budget that calls for VA to do more with less.

I now ask the members of Congress who will ultimately vote on whether to adopt or reject portions of the Administration's FY '94 budget request, to please pay particular attention to safeguarding VA benefits and entitlements programs which are now endangered by the budget cutter's axe. Bear in mind, veterans benefits represent the smallest federal entitlement program and have grown at an annual rate from 1985 to 1991 of only 2.4 percent. This is less than the rate of inflation. Compare this, for example, with Medicaid which has had a 15-percent growth rate over the same period and grew at the astonishing rate of 31.5 percent between 1991 and 1992. The unfairness of subjecting VA to the same stringent budgetary measures as

those entitlements which have ballooned beyond all control and reason is apparent. Nonetheless, we fear this is exactly the situation veterans are going to face.

Veterans health care has been particularly hard hit over the past years. Less than 2 percent of the total amount the Federal government will spend on health care this year will go to VA health care. A representative sampling of VA medical centers by the authors of the Independent Budget revealed budget shortfalls ranging from \$1 million to \$5 million during FY 1992, and similar shortages are expected for the current year. While almost all respondents in the Independent Budget survey professed an increasing ability to adjust to budget shortfalls, accommodation methods begin with the delay of plant maintenance and equipment replacement, then to the reduction of staff and finally outright rationing of medical care. We cannot convey strongly enough to the Congress and the Administration the unfairness of subjecting veterans health care to the same cuts which may be imposed on certain other federal programs. Veterans have not only been doing their part in keeping spending under control; but, adjusted for inflation, have in fact tolerated a decline in their programs' expenditures. Veterans are not the cause of this nation's deficit. Nonetheless, we will do our fair share in reducing the deficit, but I emphasize—fair!

## SEPARATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Messrs. Chairmen, in a related issue, the VFW strongly advocates establishing in both the Senate and House separate appropriations subcommittees exclusive to the Department of Veterans Affairs. More and more we are witnessing raids on precious VA dollars to fund non-veterans programs. Veterans should not be forced to compete within one appropriations subcommittee with other agencies for the dwindling pool of Federal dollars. Additionally, with a budget in excess of \$30 billion, over 253,000 employees, and the free-world's largest integrated health-care system, it only stands to reason that funding issues for this large and complex Cabinet department would be best addressed by exclusive appropriations subcommittees.

## ELIGIBILITY REFORM

Messrs. Chairmen, at the very heart of our legislative agenda is the VFW's commitment to ensure that any veteran wishing to be treated in a VA medical facility is not denied that care. Last year, the House Veterans' Affairs Committee took the first step in realizing this end by holding a hearing on reforming the Department of Veterans Affairs' eligibility standards. We are committed to the basic premise that every veteran should have mandated access to a full continuum of health care, to include preventive, outpatient and inpatient, long-term and nursing home care. We wish to see a cost-effective combination of services administered by VA that would constitute a wide-ranging socioeconomic safety net for veterans.

Messrs. Chairmen, we are deeply concerned that as the debate over eligibility reform continues, proposals have surfaced to allow non-veterans to be treated in VA medical centers. It is the VFW's strongly held con-

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

viction that the opening of our VA health-care system to the non-veteran population should not even be considered until VA provides access to all this nation's veterans. Simply stated, we call on VA to put its health-care delivery house in order—provide all veterans access to the VA system—before declaring there is room to treat non-veterans. Once this is accomplished, and only then, will we consider allowing non-veterans access to the VA health care system.

It is a fact that through the years certain non-veterans have been receiving care at VA facilities. For example, cases considered unusual by medical schools affiliated with the VA are, on occasion, admitted to VA treatment facilities as part of research and continuing medical-educational studies. Additionally, the VA shares certain costly high-tech medical equipment with the general health-care community. This is in keeping with a policy that allows VA patients to benefit by similar arrangements and receive care in private facilities when such is not available within VA.

The VFW has known about and acceded to these arrangements through the years in recognition of the fact that they are often borne of necessity and that the veteran community benefits by them since they enhance the VA health-care system. However, the VFW has always adamantly maintained that the VA health-care system remain dedicated to this nation's veterans and that its mission not be altered in order to serve the non-veteran community.

#### MILITARY RETIRED PAY/VA COMPENSATION OFFSET

Messrs. Chairmen, the VFW continues its strong support for legislation that would eliminate the present dollar-for-dollar offset of military retired pay when the retiree is also in receipt of VA disability compensation. We would like to commend Congressman Michael Bilirakis, Ranking Minority Member of the VA Subcommittee on Compensation and Pension, and from my home state of Florida, for again championing this cause by introducing legislation that will correct this inequity. Even though military retirement pay for longevity and VA disability compensation are separate and distinct, one continues to be offset by the other. It is unconscionable to require several hundred thousand disabled military retirees to literally finance their own disability compensation out of their earned retired pay.

#### COLA

Messrs. Chairmen, the VFW continues to support full cost-of-living adjustments for all VA compensation recipients and military retirees. Many of those in receipt of VA benefits, including military retirees, live on limited or fixed incomes, much of which continues to be eroded by inflation. Recently, the suggestion has been raised to freeze all cost-of-living adjustments in order to help reduce this nation's deficit. We oppose any such freeze; however, unless it affects the recipients of all Federal programs, to include Social Security. The national debt must not be reduced solely at the expense of our nation's veterans.

#### NATIONAL CEMETERY

The VFW actively supports legislation that would provide an open national cemetery in every state. Because a great number of national cemeteries are closed, the survivors of eligible veterans are forced to either seek the veteran's interment far from home or through other sources—generally at greater expense. We believe that providing an open national cemetery in every state is

the responsibility of the Federal Government inasmuch as veterans were inducted into military service by that government. Bear in mind, a burial with distinction by a grateful nation is the singular benefit afforded all veterans.

#### VETERANS EMPLOYMENT

Messrs. Chairmen, when we last appeared before this Joint Committee, we expressed deep concern over the softening federal commitment toward providing maximum employment and training opportunities for veterans. While there is still cause for concern, we are doubly pleased with the efforts of this Joint Committee in spearheading the enactment of legislation that restored eligibility for the Veterans' Readjustment Authority (VRA) program for certain veterans of the Vietnam Era.

As a result of the latest changes, non-disabled and non-theatre veterans from the Vietnam Era are now able to resume competing with other veterans for a non-competitive appointment through the VRA program when starting their careers with a federal civilian agency. We feel that this is as it should be.

We continue to be alarmed, however, over the broader issue of "veterans preference" and how it is no longer being properly observed by many federal agencies' hiring officials when filling vacancies.

Our mail from veterans complaining of this situation continues to grow, and I am sure all of you are experiencing the same situation. These veterans—many of whom participated in Desert Storm and have often been involuntarily discharged due to the drawdown—are complaining that while they have sufficient skills and abilities for the mostly entry-level jobs for which they are applying, they are nonetheless not being hired despite their veterans preference status.

Nearly three years ago, several members of the House requested the General Accounting Office (GAO) to determine whether the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and other agencies are giving veterans preferred consideration for jobs as provided for by the "Veterans' Preference Act of 1944." Congress additionally requested to know why veterans are not being hired even when receiving veterans points. The GAO Report released last March after an 18-months study, found that the most serious breaches occur after the veteran applicant is in the system.

Of the more than 1,100 randomly selected certificates of eligible candidates reviewed and of the over 1,800 federal job applications submitted by persons on those certificates it was found that only 21 percent of the available veterans who were ranked first on the certificates were hired. We recognize of course that present law and regulations permit hiring officials to consider a variety of candidate sources when filling vacancies. For instance, instead of selecting the top candidate on a certificate—who may be a veteran—a manager may select an internal candidate applying for promotion or select someone outside the agency through the Outstanding Scholar program.

While individuals hired through these other sources may include veterans, these sources do not generally provide veterans with special preference. Although GAO found that certificates were often returned when non-veterans, as well as when veterans, were the top-ranked candidate, those certificates with a veteran at the top were more likely to be returned without selection.

However, the fact that only 21 percent of the available veterans who were ranked first

on OPM and executive agencies certificates were hired is unacceptable. This fact suggest that when given the choice, hiring officials, a majority of the time, would rather fill a vacancy from another source or not fill the vacancy at all.

This is clearly not what this body had in mind when the Veterans Preference Act was first enacted, and we urge that this Joint Committee give early attention to correcting this problem during the current session.

#### DEFENSE READINESS

Another issue which I will address at this time is the administration's proposal to lift the ban on homosexuals serving in the Armed Service. While this matter falls under the immediate jurisdiction of the Armed Services Committees, it also holds potentially serious consequences for the Department of Veterans Affairs. It is for this reason, coupled with the VFW's ongoing advocacy on behalf of a strong and effective national defense, that I address this matter here today. As articulated in current VFW Resolution No. 416, "Oppose Homosexual Acceptance in the Military," this organization is deeply concerned over the impact any such change of policy would have on our Armed Forces. We unequivocally oppose the efforts of those who would force the military services to accept or retain homosexuals in the military.

This issue is a very serious matter, and our military leaders are gravely and, in our view, appropriately concerned about the harmful impact such a change would have on our Armed Forces and this nation's common defense at this critical juncture in history. It is our hope that President Clinton will listen to the informed counsel of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as well as other military leaders on this issue. It is our belief that if the President does heed their advice, the conclusion will be inescapable that the ban should remain in place.

The last thing I will address here today with respect to this issue is the potential impact that any such change would have for the Department of Veterans Affairs. One problem which immediately presents itself is the determination of whether or not a same sex partner may be defined as a legal spouse for the purposes of VA benefit determinations, such as Death Indemnity Compensation. This matter is far from being resolved in the civilian sector and we do not wish to see VA being forced into the situation of having to somehow resolve this labyrinthine legal issue. We would also point out that the sudden infusion of an openly homosexual population into the military poses grave challenges to the resources and wherewithal of the VA health-care system. The VFW is anxiously awaiting, and intends to closely monitor, the congressional hearings which are to be conducted later this month when the VA will address the issue of what effects lifting the ban on homosexuals in the military will pose for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### A LOST GENERATION'S OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 8, 1993

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I have been asked by my constituent, Millie Hobbs, to

share with my colleagues a letter expressing her concerns and those of several others.

The open letter comments on many issues facing Americans today. Ms. Hobbs and those who also signed the open letter believed its inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD was a good way to have their voices heard and I urge my colleagues to review their presentation.

**A LOST GENERATION'S OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES**

It is with a great sense of apprehension and dread for the future of our country that I write to you—for I realize more than ever before that I am a member of America's lost generation.

When I use the phrase "lost generation" I refer to those of us in America who belong to an era in which we were taught by our parents to pattern our lives on the values espoused in the "Good Book"—the Bible. We live our lives making daily choices between right and wrong—again, based on the Christian concept.

What is happening in America? Is everything we were taught to believe by our parents and grandparents null and void today?

Who in the three branches of our government represents our beliefs today? None, it seems. We have a liberal majority Congress, a liberal Supreme Court, and now a liberal President and Cabinet who support life styles and issues that we were taught were wrong—softness on the use of drugs, the condoning of homosexuality, over-indulgence in pre-marital sex, the random killing of unborn children, filthy language and pornography on every corner of every town, and even a liberal-biased media running uncontrolled telling half-truths and unsubstantiated tales without recourse for those maligned by the powerful "poisoned pen". All these things make me ask, "Has Congress and Washington, D.C., become the Sodom and Gomorrah of today?"

How has the docile acceptance of these graphic changes in America's society come upon us with such fervor and devastation? What has happened to the safeguards set up by our forefathers who believed "in God we trust"?

This erosion of our beliefs has left many such as I in a state of deep disillusionment to which there seems to be no end in sight—and no hopeful solution.

With no voice whatsoever in our defense, Americans today are heavily overtaxed. Still, her elected leaders seem to have no remorse for the plight of the Middle Class in this matter. Our congressional employees continue to consider more ways to tax "the hands that feed the country." Even now our Congress and our newly elected over-aggressive President are planning on more taxes—on energy, retirement, social security—perhaps even the air we breathe. If their plans succeed, most retiring Americans will never live to spend the payments they made to their social security retirement plan. I suppose that is the general idea, right?

However, at the same time while middle Americans struggle to provide the bare necessities of life for their families, our elected elite drive around in limos, live in mansions, wear the most expensive clothes, dine in the very best restaurants, travel extensively, home and abroad, and manage occasionally to vote themselves an annual raise equal in one lump sum to more than most Americans make in a year. This leads to my next questions, "When taxes finally kill off the 'middle class' who is going to pay for the life-

styles of our rich and famous employees in Washington, D.C.?" "Will the head of the beast be allowed to totally consume the body so that both will eventually perish?"

Nowhere in any business of which I know is it permissible for the employer (the people) to allow the employees (Congress) to decide their own raises, make all the rules, and tell the boss what he can or cannot do with his own enterprise. This system is unreliable and will fail sooner or later. The employer becomes too weak and the employee too powerful—the one who pays the bills will become bankrupt and the employee will have destroyed the very system that sustained him because he took too much for himself—giving nothing back to the system.

Any protests, such as this one, voiced against these practices are ignored by most of Congress or other leaders as to having no valid substance that should be considered. Our leaders seem to believe that those of us who hold such beliefs are uneducated, bigoted, hillbilly "rednecks" who are out of step with the "new progressive times." We highly resent such attitudes which are discriminatory. Such elitist thinking promotes further and deeper divisions of sectionalism of thought in our country. This is not good for America! We feel alienated from our own society. The real bigots are those who have the audacity to label others as bigots just because some do not feel the same way they do about issues. Is individualism in America dead? Whatever is wrong with having diverse opinions on issues? I believe it is healthy. Otherwise, are we all to become clones of one another in one giant melting pot? I hope not.

When I look at America today I see evolving a feudal system similar to the one hundreds of years ago in Europe. A system that is divided between an emerging group of non-taxed royalty, lords, and ladies, and a peasantry of poor and middle class taxpayers. The rich and powerful and the poor feeding off the blood, sweat, and tears of the over-taxed middle class. This is the same type system from which our forefathers fled to America to escape. A system of the Wasteful Wealthy elite and the Helpless Hopeless middle class. Will history repeat itself?

We, as Americans, do not want a King. We do not want a Queen! We do not want a Royal Court! We do not want royal decrees (executive orders) that have no valid representation of the masses but are only an edict from a "chosen" few who have the ear of the Royal Court and the King.

Our petition to Congress and our President is, "Do not try and force us, the forgotten generation, to live at opposite ends of the major issues with those we have hired to represent us." Our voices cry out in unison—will you hear? Our pain and unhappiness is real—Do you care?

A Madalyn Murray O'Hair of atheism can catch the ears of Congress for hours on end. A Millie Hobbs of Christianity will be heard by no one but will instead be labeled a Bible-belt redneck and bigot! Atheists in America today are touted, listened to, written up in history books and given the unlimited floor of Congress. Christians in America today are belittled, have deaf ears turned to them, are labeled fanatics, are given no credence whatsoever, and are persecuted daily by our country's leadership and the liberal media. America is definitely back in the Dark Ages where God and religion is concerned! How has this happened?

Contrary to the beliefs of some, just because we have conservative beliefs—God, country, motherhood, and "apple pie"—does not mean we are ignorant, redneck, and out

of tune with these times. Believe it or not, we have some high I.Q.'s between our country ears. And all Americans do not need law degrees or any other kind, for that matter, to be able to comprehend truth from lies or right from wrong! And while we do believe in the rights of minorities, we do not want to see the rights of the majority usurped in the process. What common sense does this make? The Minority ruling the Majority? This is Democracy? If so, I, for one, don't like it! And I'm not afraid or ashamed to say so! As an American, I am entitled to my own individual beliefs and opinions, whether anyone else agrees with them or not. I have no intention of being force-fed and coerced—by those in control of the President's Office or the American Congress—to accept as my own beliefs concepts which I believe with all my heart and soul are wrong. I am not alone.

In the matter of accusations of "bigotry" being used on the hour and by the hour by Congress and the media as a "feel guilty" conscience tool for whipping down any objections one might have for special treatment of one minority group or another over the standard treatment of the majority, this tactic has been beaten into the ground and is now beginning to reap the reverse results desired.

Most Americans will acquire a normal respect for all persons because of their individual contributions to society, and their personal character, not because of an "accident of birth" or atrocities perpetrated against someone. This would be a sympathy respect without merit. The real truth is, if any person wants respect from others, he or she must earn it first on his or her own merits not because of skin color, (white, yellow, or black) sex, age, or wrongs of the past. Many individuals of different minorities have already proven this in the past—George Washington Carver, and Amelia Earhart, to name two. They did not wait on a perfected society to act. After all, who among us is wise enough to pass fair judgement? Just who receives the punishment? How long is the sentence?

There are many other issues pertaining to living in America today that I would like to address that greatly disturb me. However, I feel that what I have already written here will never be read or considered by those to whom it is being sent. I would like to think that I am still a part of an American democracy and that someone will hear my voice, but I long ago gave up that fantasy. This American has finally "stopped dreaming" and can now honestly smell the future winds that blow across this country from the direction of Washington, D.C.—"you either go along with the liberals or get lost." So, I, like many others, Am lost in America today.

In closing, I would like to again remind the members of our Congress and our new President to recall the study of past world histories, especially the Greek and Roman empires. Before the failure of these once great empires, moral decadence preceded their governments' fall.

We, of the lost generation of whom I have spoken in this letter, feel that America today is in the throngs of great moral decay. Will it become fatal to her ultimate survival? Only time and the actions of those who are her citizens, those who rule her, and those who love her will tell.

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 8, 1993*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today, March 8, marks the observance of International Women's Day. In an effort to highlight this, I call attention to the first World Conference on Human Rights in 25 years which will be held in Vienna in June of this year. Although a final agenda has not yet been determined for the conference, there appears to be insufficient attention being given to the human rights abuses suffered by women specifically as a result of their gender.

If there was any doubt left in the minds of the world community that special forms of torture and mistreatment are created especially for women, that uncertainty must be eradicated by now through the horrible examples being given to us in Bosnia. As Nihada Kadic of the Croation women's group Tresnjeva said, "raping a woman is a message from man to man, warrior to warrior." Estimates of women who have suffered this abuse are reaching 50,000, according to Bosnian Ministry for Interior Affairs.

But crimes of rape and other violations against women are not limited to times of war. All over the world, women are used as a medium to send threats to a brother, husband, or father for his political activity. There has been little outcry by the international community. It was not until 1991 that the U.S. Department of State recognized rape as a form of torture in its human rights reports.

On July 17, 1980, the United States signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women [Women's Convention]. This treaty provides an international standard for the treatment of women and an institutional mechanism to promote this standard. The signing of an international human rights treaty signals intent to ratify. During his administration, President Carter took the next step by submitting the treaty to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. But sadly, no further action has since been taken.

Ratification of this Convention is significant to the United States. Despite the fact that much of U.S. law is already in compliance with the treaty, ratification is proof that U.S. commitment to human rights is sound and not limited to just within our own borders. Participation by the United States would lend significant weight to the treaty's enforcement. The United States played a major role in drafting the treaty. Now, it should stand by its commitment by ratifying it.

In the 102d Congress, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed House Resolution 115, calling on the President and the Senate to act on ratification of the Women's Convention without any further delay. That sentiment has not changed with the new Congress or the new administration.

It is time for the world community and the United States to recognize and defend the individual rights of women. On International Women's Day, I challenge leaders of all nations to adhere to the international human

rights agreements to which they are already committed, and if they have not already done so, to take the appropriate steps to ratify and enforce the provisions of the Women's Convention.

## EAGLE SCOUT HONORED

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 8, 1993*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to bring to the attention of my colleagues, an outstanding young individual from the Third Congressional District of Illinois who has completed a major goal in his scouting career. John Gelsomino of Riverside, IL, will be honored at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

It is important to note that less than 2 percent of all young men in America attain the rank of Eagle Scout. This high honor can only be earned by those scouts demonstrating extraordinary leadership abilities. During his years of Scouting, John has been very active. As a Cub Scout, he earned all ranks up and through Arrow of Light as well as the Cub Scout religious award for Catholic Scouts—Parvuli Dei. As a Boy Scout, John worked diligently on his ranks from Tenderfoot through Life Scout in 3 years. His Eagle Scout project was completed during the month of August 1992, and was then dedicated in October 1992. To date, he has earned 22 merit badges and is presently working toward his first palm. John has actively assisted every Eagle Scout project for members of Troop No. 92 since joining, and now serves as senior patrol leader of the troop working closely with the younger scouts on their advancement projects.

In addition to his service at school, church and scouts, John has volunteered many hours of service to the village of Riverside Department of Recreation and the Riverside Chamber of Commerce. This proven commitment to his community is exceptional and serves as an example for others to follow.

In light of the commendable leadership and courageous activities performed by this fine young man, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John Gelsomino for attaining the highest honor in Scouting—the rank of Eagle. Let us wish him the very best in all of his endeavors.

LET'S USE TOBACCO TAXES TO  
PAY FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM**HON. MICHAEL A. ANDREWS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 8, 1993*

Mr. ANDREWS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Tobacco Health Tax Act. This bill will raise the cigarette excise tax to \$1 per pack as a way to finance health care reform. It will raise \$10 to \$12 billion annually. This money would be earmarked for access to health care starting with pregnant women and children.

The Members of Congress who support this legislation represent a wide range of proposals for reforming our health care system—from managed competition to single payer. I am proud to have Congressmen PETE STARK, SANDER LEVIN, and JIM McDERMOTT of the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee as original cosponsors. We may not agree on the best way to reform the health care system, but we agree on the best way to help pay for it: a tax on cigarettes.

The \$1 tobacco tax will provide health care for over 5 million Americans. When we couple tobacco taxes with other sources, we can afford to provide universal coverage.

We know that illnesses related to cigarette smoking are responsible for approximately \$24 billion of the Nation's health care bill, but the current tax on tobacco generates only \$14.5 billion in revenue.

The \$1 tax is just a down payment on recovering the cost of smoking—smoking costs our country \$40 billion in lost productivity. We rank at the bottom among developed nations for tobacco tax rates—we should get the tobacco tax to at least \$2 per pack in the near future.

A tobacco tax stops children from smoking and saves lives. Studies show that a dollar tobacco tax will save nearly 1 million lives over time and prevent more deaths than illicit drugs have caused throughout U.S. history.

Polls show strong support for tobacco taxes especially when they are tied to health care reform. It is unusual in polling for taxes to enjoy the support of 75 to 80 percent of the American public as do tobacco taxes.

The Senate companion to this legislation is sponsored by Senator BILL BRADLEY. His leadership on this issue has been outstanding.

I urge your support for this legislation.

## NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK

**HON. ROMANO L. MAZZOLI**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 8, 1993*

Mr. MAZZOLI. Mr. Speaker, in October of this year, 10 years will have passed since the YMCA Center for Youth Alternatives, located in my hometown of Louisville, Kentucky, established an innovative program designed to assist youth and families in crisis situations.

This novel outreach program, which is very appropriately named Project Safe Place, combines the services of youth service agencies, the business community, and a network of committed volunteers. A youth in trouble may enter a business or public location displaying the Project Safe Place logo and be assured of a secure place to wait until transportation to a youth shelter is provided.

Since its inception in 1983, 100 cities have begun Project Safe Place programs and more than 11,000 young people have been served. Moreover, intervention at the early stages of a crisis, which Project Safe Place provides, permits an opportunity for lasting problem resolution.

To commemorate the 10th anniversary of Project Safe Place, I am today introducing legislation which would designate the first week

of October, 1993 as "National Safe Place Week." I invite all our colleagues to join me in recognizing this program which has been cited by both President Reagan and the National League of Cities by cosponsoring this measure. Let us signal our support for those who ensure a safe place for our Nation's children.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT

HON. JON KYL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 8, 1993

Mr. KYL. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Taxpayer Protection Act which will prohibit agencies of the Government from extending credit or providing loans to foreign countries which are already in arrears or in default to other U.S. Government agencies.

Last year, Russia announced it could not repay the \$80 billion of debt payments that it owes Western creditors, some \$18 billion of which is due this year. Instead, Moscow announced it would pay no more than \$2.5 billion to all of its creditors, just a fraction of what is actually due. Already Russia is \$400 million in arrears to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation. And, Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy acknowledged that Russia's defaults could reach \$1 billion by May. Yet, the U.S. Export-Import Bank is planning to provide Russia with additional loans—maybe as much as \$5 billion. The Exim Bank is proceeding with the loans even though there is no evidence that Russia will be able to settle its account with CCC in the near future. In fact, the administration knows that Russia cannot repay all the debt it owes.

Instead of repaying debt, Russian capital is being stashed in overseas banks. So while the West loaned Russia \$17 billion last year, according to the Journal of Commerce, Russia sent \$10 billion abroad. One Journal analyst questioned "whether the West is wasting much of the money it's spending helping the economy," and another stated, "It seems useless to put additional money into that economy."

U.S. banks would not be permitted to make a home loan or commercial loan to such an uncreditworthy borrower. What's good for loans to Americans should be good for loans to Russia or other countries; bad credit, no loan. As Americans are now being asked to sacrifice because of our public debt, I believe Congress has a responsibility to ensure American taxpayers are protected by ensuring that foreign loans/credit guarantees are made to creditworthy recipients only.

SPEECH BY REAR ADM. J. LLOYD ABBOT, JR.

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 8, 1993

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I have been asked by one of my constituents to share a document with my colleagues.

The speech was delivered to the Alabama Department, Military Order of the Purple Heart, on February 6, 1993, by Rear Adm. J. Lloyd Abbot, Jr., USN, retired. Admiral Abbot presented his views on the issue of homosexuals serving in the military based on his many years of experience and service in the Armed Forces.

Admiral Abbot's opinion on military issues is well respected in my district, and I urge my colleagues to take time to review his presentation.

SPEECH BY REAR ADM. J. LLOYD ABBOT, JR., USN, RETIRED

On June 16th, 1935, I raised my right hand and swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and to serve at the pleasure of the President. In other words, ten days short of my seventeenth birthday, I made a commitment for life. I've never been sorry or even had any second thoughts. Thirty-nine years after I took that oath the President's pleasure waned a bit, so I left active duty, but in retirement I've considered my obligation under the oath to be just as binding as it's always been.

During my lifetime, United States Armed Forces have faced quite a number of major crises. Among them are: World War I, World War II, The Korean War, The Viet Nam War, The Cold War, and The Gulf War, to name a few. During these same years the Armed Forces also have had to face big setbacks in funding, and in support by the government and the people. During the Great Depression, in the early thirties, there was a flat, across-the-board, 15% cut in pay and allowances. Incidentally, that cut applied to everybody on the federal payroll, including the President and members of Congress. It was accepted by all, with a minimum of grouching, because all understood the seriousness of the government's financial situation, and everybody's pay was cut. No exceptions. One wonders if we will ever have the guts to do anything like that again. During all these years, in Wartime and Peacetime, Depression and Prosperity, Popular Support and Cold Shoulder, Feast and Famine, the Armed Forces managed somehow to maintain their esprit de corps, their morale, and most important, their combat capability.

Today, February 6, 1993, I say to the Alabama Department of the Military Order of the Purple Heart that the Armed Forces of the United States face a greater crisis than any which they've faced since the nation was founded in 1776! Am I talking about runaway budget deficits? No. Am I talking about the prospect of cutting back the size of United States Military Forces to a dangerously low point? No. Am I talking about the unbelievable multi-trillion-dollar National Debt? No. Am I talking about Somalia as a Tar Baby? No. Am I talking about the tinder boxes in Iraq, in the Balkans, and various other hot spots around the world? No, because as serious as all these things are, with the quality of the leadership we have in place, and the quality of our soldiers, sailors, and airmen, and most important of all, their healthy morale and esprit de corps, none of these things prevent our residual forces from having excellent Combat Capability. This is one audience where I don't have to point out that the sole reason for existence of Military Forces is Combat Capability.

So what is this great crisis staring our Armed Forces in the face? It comes in two parts. Part one is the possibility that the Ban on admitting acknowledged homo-

sexuals into the Military Forces of the United States may be lifted, and that it may then be impossible to discharge a person from the service solely by virtue of being an acknowledged homosexual. Part two is that the recently elected President of the United States not only is in favor of removing the ban, he's given that removal overwhelming priority at the beginning of his term of office! Even more ominous is that he apparently made up his mind to take this action without first consulting the top Uniformed Leadership of the nation. The Joint Chiefs of Staff had a meeting with him last week, but they had to ask for the meeting, he didn't send for them.

Let's look into a little more detail about acknowledged homosexuals in Military Service. Here's a piece of "Show and Tell." It's a little paperback book titled "Military Necessity and Homosexuality" by Colonel Ronald D. Ray, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. It has a 1993 Copyright, so it's hot off the press. I judge it to be one of the most scholarly and authoritative books ever written on homosexuality in general, and homosexuals in the military in particular. The bibliography runs to 9½ pages. There are 79 book references, 38 Scientific Studies or Reports cited, 78 references to Periodicals and Newspapers, 51 Cases, Statutes, and Law Reviews, and 26 Miscellaneous References. In a word: Colonel Ray has done our homework for us! As an aside, let me say here that I don't offer this book to you as the Homosexual Gospel according to Colonel Ray. I say it's an assembly by him of material from the most authoritative sources in the country.

Now you don't have the time, and I don't have the inclination, to do a book review for you this morning. But let me share with you some parts of the book that hit me right between the eyes. In the first place, he goes into the nitty gritty of homosexual practices in graphic detail. Believe me, I was, and am, appalled. I've always had the idea that I'm a reasonably well-informed individual, and that I've realized what goes on among homosexuals, but I didn't know the half of it! It's shocking.

He also lays out military arguments for maintaining the ban on homosexuals in the Military. These range from the Unnecessary Additional Medical Risk due to AIDS, and other transmitted diseases and medical problems; to Morale and Cohesion; the Leadership Dilemma; Public Confidence; Recruiting and Retention; and finally the important questions of Character and Moral Stability. That's a very short and quick summary of what's really the guts of this question, namely: What will be the effect on readiness of a large infusion of homosexuals? Yesterday afternoon I got a haircut, and in the process discussed the above factors with my barber. He said, "Admiral, you left out maybe the most important one." I said what's that? and he said: "Pride." He said: "When I was a sailor I was proud of the men in my division and on my ship. I was proud of my Navy, and proud of my country. If you put homosexuals aboard ship, sailors are going to start being ashamed of their shipmates, and they're going to vote with their feet as soon as their enlistment expires. You can talk all you want to about training and indoctrination, but you can train and indoctrinate until you're blue in the face, and you're never going to make sailors proud of being shipmates with homosexuals."

But to find out about the devastating effect on Combat Effectiveness, from admitting acknowledged homosexuals into the military, you don't need to go to any book, all you have to do is talk to people who've

had to deal with the presence of the occasional surfacing homosexual in their own experience. I'm one of those people, and I dare say there are more in this audience. Suffice it to say that the only factor which has prevented heavy inroads into morale, esprit de corps, and combat effectiveness, has been the ability heretofore given to Unit Commanders to immediately purge such surfacing homosexuals from the system.

Some of the arguments put forward by the Homosexual Movement for removing the ban don't hold water. One of these arguments is that banning homosexuals is a violation of their Constitutional Rights, and that they must be treated exactly as other minority groups in their quest for non-discrimination. As Senator Sam Nunn said so eloquently Wednesday morning on television, the Military Services are not a democracy. When a person is sworn in to the service, he or she surrenders a significant number of Constitutional Rights. A lady named Jean Yarborough said it much better than I can, and I quote:

"The military simply must not and need not adhere to the same rules as civilian employment. Although the military defends the principles of democratic society, it cannot fully embody them. Its end is victory, not equity; its virtue is courage, not justice; its structure is authoritarian, not pluralistic."

That part of the Homosexual Movement's argument which says they're just like women and blacks, as far as minority group status is concerned, is especially flawed. Women and blacks are entitled to non-discrimination as people, whereas homosexuals must continue to be banned because of their sexual practices. There's something very normal and natural about being a woman or being a black. There's something very abnormal and unnatural about being a homosexual.

Another flawed part of the Homosexual Movement's argument is their claim that 10% of the U.S. population is made up of homosexuals. If one rounds off the U.S. population at 250 million, that would yield 25 million homosexuals. I don't believe that, do you? There are many studies in existence, both at home and abroad, all of which put the percentage of homosexuals at only a small fraction of 10%. But the fact of the matter is that there has been no broad-based universally accepted study which establishes authoritatively a percentage of "practicing homosexuals." I use the term "practicing homosexuals" because some studies count anyone who has had at least one homosexual experience, whereas other studies have shown that only a small percentage of those who have had only one homosexual experience eventually become practicing homosexuals. Suffice it to say that it's the "practicing homosexuals" who are generating all the heat about "Gay Rights," and their percentage of the population is most likely somewhere between 1% and 2%. If one takes his study sample of 6,000 males from certain blocks in San Francisco, the homosexual percentage will approach 100%. If, instead, the study sample of 6,000 males is taken aboard a United States carrier in the Persian Gulf, the homosexual percentage will approach 0%. Thank Goodness for that!

Now I turn to the question of how I resolve my firmly held conviction in this matter with the teachings of my church. This past Sunday our Curate directed us to turn to the page in the Prayer Book called the "Baptismal Covenant." He repeated some of the Covenants, and the congregation responded. The last Covenant is "Will you strive for justice

and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?" Along with the rest of the congregation I replied "I will, with God's help." So what it is: I respect the dignity of every homosexual as a human being, but I reject his sexual practices.

Finally, how do I resolve the possible conflict between my oath of office, and the words in this speech, which are contrary to the desires of my Commander in Chief? The answer is that, if the President is determined to shoot the nation in the foot, I must put the long glass to my blind eye and do what I can to stop him!

Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for your attention this morning, and hope you're motivated to do something about the crisis. Here's what you can do: (1) Get yourself informed. (2) Enter the Debate. (3) Then communicate with all your elected officials, including the President!

#### THE HIGH COST OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

### HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 8, 1993

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I have gone on record many times as adamantly opposed to capital punishment because I believe it is a sadistic and uncivil form of punishment that does not accomplish the purported objective of crime deterrence. However, a more portentous argument is that an innocent person could be sentenced to death, as was almost the case in Alabama.

I would like to share the following article from the March 3, 1993, edition of the New York Times with my colleagues who support capital punishment and who do not feel that the possibility of sentencing an innocent person is reason enough to ban capital punishment in the United States.

#### BLACK MAN FREED AFTER YEARS ON DEATH ROW IN ALABAMA

(By Peter Applebome)

BAY MINETTE, AL, March 2.—Walter McMillian walked out of a courtroom here today a free man after prosecutors conceded that he had spent six years awaiting execution on Alabama's Death Row because of perjured testimony and evidence withheld from his lawyers.

Whether he was also put there for being a black man who violated the racial and sexual taboos of the small-town South is only one of the issues swirling around a case that has evoked not only distinctly Southern but also far broader questions of race and justice.

Almost everything about Mr. McMillian's conviction in 1967 for the shooting death of an 18-year-old white female store clerk now seems extraordinary. From the start, the case was enveloped in a volatile mixture of race and sex stemming from Mr. McMillian's involvement with a white woman. Mr. McMillian, who is 46 years old, was locked up on Death Row even before he was tried. The state built a case on suspect testimony and withheld crucial evidence that called that testimony into question.

#### LESSONS TO LEARN

In the end, it was a decision by the trial judge, Robert E. Lee Key Jr., to treat Mr. McMillian as harshly as possible, that allowed Mr. McMillian to win his freedom. If

the jury's sentence of life in prison without parole had been left in place, Mr. McMillian might have been another forgotten black inmate in an Alabama prison. But Judge Key overruled the jury and condemned Mr. McMillian to die in the electric chair. Because of the death sentence, Mr. McMillian's case was vigorously appealed, and the truth came to light.

"I think everybody needs to understand what happened because what happened today could happen tomorrow if we don't learn some lessons from this," said his lawyer, Bryan Stevenson. "It was too easy for one person to come into court and frame a man for a murder he didn't commit. It was too easy for the state to convict someone for that crime and then have him sentenced to death. And it was too hard in light of the evidence of his innocence to show this court that he should never have been here in the first place."

Mr. McMillian's case, which was given national attention last fall on the CBS News program "60 Minutes," played out in Monroeville, Ala., best known as the home of the Harper Lee, whose "To Kill a Mockingbird," told a painful story of race and justice in the small-town Jim Crow South.

To many of his defenders, Mr. McMillian's conviction for the killing seemed like an updated version of the book, in which a black man was accused of raping a white woman.

There were no immediate suspects after Ronda Morrison was murdered on the morning of Nov. 1, 1986, in a dry cleaning store. Eight months later the police, arrested Ralph Myers, a 30-year-old with a long criminal record, in connection with another killing in nearby Escambia County. After a week of grilling by police, Mr. Myers accused Mr. McMillian, a pulpwood worker, as Ms. Morrison's killer.

Mr. McMillian was arrested, and in an extraordinary move, was immediately sent to Alabama's Death Row, in Holman State Prison, Atmore, which is usually reserved for convicted murderers awaiting execution.

Mr. McMillian was convicted after a one-and-a-half-day trial on the testimony of three witnesses.

#### TESTIMONY AT TRIAL

Mr. Myers testified that Mr. McMillian asked him for a ride to the cleaning store. There, Mr. Myers said, he witnessed the murder. Another criminal suspect testified that he saw Mr. McMillian's "low rider" truck near the cleaner's and a third man implicated Mr. McMillian.

Mr. McMillian's lawyer called a dozen witnesses, who all testified he was at home the day of the murder taking part in a fish fry. But despite that testimony and the lack of physical evidence, he was found guilty.

Judge Key, citing the "vicious and brutal killing of a young lady in the first full flower of adulthood" changed the life sentence to death, as allowed under Alabama law.

Mr. McMillian, who had two jobs and no criminal record other than a misdemeanor charge stemming from a barroom fight, did not have a history of violence, but he was well known in town. Mr. McMillian, who is married with three children from his current marriage and has nine children altogether, was dating a white woman named Karen Kelly. And one of his sons had married a white woman.

#### ROOTS OF SUSPICION

Both Mr. McMillian and his lawyer at the original trial, J. L. Chestnut, contended that Mr. McMillian's relationships alone had made him a suspect.

"The only reason I'm here is because I had been messing around with a white lady and my son married a white lady," he said last week in a prison interview.

Whatever the reason, inquiries by Mr. Stevenson and by Alabama Bureau of Investigation agents have since discredited every element of the prosecution's case. All three prosecution witnesses have recanted their testimony.

Mr. Myers has said that law officers prodded him into accusing Mr. McMillian. What's more, Mr. Stevenson's investigation turned up Mr. Myers's first response to police inquiries about Mr. McMillian, in which he said he had had no knowledge of Mr. McMillian's involvement in the crime. Mr. Stevenson also turned up statements from the time of the trial in which four doctors at a forensic hospital said Mr. Myers told them he was being pressured by law officers to lie about Mr. McMillian.

None of that material was turned over to the defense at the time, as required. Finally, the lawyer found that Mr. McMillian's truck was not turned into the low rider identified by his accusers until well after the murder.

After turning down four appeals, the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals threw out Mr. McMillian's conviction last week 5 to 0, leading to today's hearing.

The current Monroe County District Attorney, Tommy Chapman, who did not prosecute the original case, joined the defense in seeking to have the charges dismissed. But he contended there was no deliberate effort to frame Mr. McMillian.

"It just mushroomed into a horrible mistake," he said in an interview last week. "I don't want to call it that. A horrible incident."

He contended that Mr. McMillian's release proved the system worked. Neither he nor Circuit Court Judge Pamela W. Baschab offered any apology or comment on the case at the 10-minute hearing this morning.

But Mr. Stevenson said the case, coming at a time that the Supreme Court is increasingly cutting off avenues for Federal appeals, was a reminder how flawed the justice system could be. Since the case was resolved in the state courts, Mr. McMillian's case was not affected by recent decisions limiting appellants' access to the Federal courts.

Mr. Stevenson, who handles death row cases for the Alabama Capital Representation Resource Center in Montgomery, said only the death sentence allowed Mr. McMillian to receive adequate representation. And this case was unusual because the state's case proved not flimsy, but nonexistent, he said.

**INNOCENCE IS CLEAR**

"The fortunate thing about Mr. McMillian's case is his innocence was demonstrable," he said. "It's clear he had nothing to do with this crime. There are other folks in prison who don't have the money or the resources or the good fortune to have folks come in and help them."

He said he would examine possible legal action on Mr. McMillian's behalf.

Mr. McMillian, who appeared in court this morning in a dark three-piece suit instead of the prison whites he has worn for six years, listened impassively as the charges were thrown out, then smiled and hugged his lawyers, Mr. Stevenson and Bernard Harcourt, before being greeted by throngs of family members and well wishers who overflowed the courtroom and waited in the halls. Outside they unfurled a makeshift banner, using his nickname, that read, "Welcome Home Johnnie D. God Never Fails."

Mr. McMillian said he had always expected this day to come, but when asked if the decision today restored his faith in the judicial system he said: "No. Not, at all."

Mr. Stevenson added: "We told the court when we were here a year ago that truth crushed to earth shall rise again. It doesn't necessarily mean we believe in the judicial system."

**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, March 9, 1993, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

**MEETINGS SCHEDULED**

**MARCH 10**

9:00 a.m.  
 Environment and Public Works  
 Clean Air and Nuclear Regulation Subcommittee  
 To hold hearings to review the implementation of section 507 of the Clean Air Act and approaches to delivering compliance and technical assistance to small businesses. SD-406

9:30 a.m.  
 Governmental Affairs  
 Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations  
 To hold hearings to examine corruption in the professional boxing industry. SD-342

Labor and Human Resources  
 Children, Family, Drugs, and Alcoholism Subcommittee  
 To hold joint hearings with the House Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families on youth violence issues. SH-216

10:00 a.m.  
 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
 To hold hearings to review Federal Reserve presidents' views on monetary policy and economic conditions. SD-538

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
 To hold hearings to examine competitiveness in the U.S. automobile industry. SR-253

2:30 p.m.  
 Armed Services  
 To hold hearings to review the report of the Department of Defense's Defense Systems Management College Advisory

Panel on streamlining and codifying the acquisition laws. SR-222

**MARCH 11**

9:00 a.m.  
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
 Surface Transportation Subcommittee  
 To hold oversight hearings on the inter-city bus industry. SR-253

9:30 a.m.  
 Energy and Natural Resources  
 To hold hearings to examine the energy needs of the People's Republic of China. SD-366

Governmental Affairs  
 To hold hearings to examine methods for improving government organization and performance. SD-342

10:00 a.m.  
 Appropriations  
 Transportation Subcommittee  
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the Federal Transit Administration, and the General Accounting Office, focusing on transit needs. SD-138

Foreign Relations  
 To hold hearings on the Treaty on Open Skies, with 12 Annexes (Treaty Doc. 102-37). SD-430

Joint Organization of Congress  
 To resume hearings to examine congressional reform proposals. S-5, Capitol

**MARCH 16**

9:30 a.m.  
 Energy and Natural Resources  
 Mineral Resources Development and Production Subcommittee  
 To hold hearings on S. 257, to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain lands, consistent with the principles of self-initiation of mining claims. SD-366

Environment and Public Works  
 To hold hearings on environmental aspects of the North American Free Trade Agreement. SD-406

**MARCH 17**

10:00 a.m.  
 Appropriations  
 Transportation Subcommittee  
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the National Transportation Safety Board. SD-192

Governmental Affairs  
 Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations  
 To resume hearings to examine corruption in the professional boxing industry. SD-342

**MARCH 18**

9:00 a.m.  
 Rules and Administration  
 Business meeting, to mark up proposed legislation relating to Congressional election campaign finance reform. SR-301

9:30 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on S. 473, to promote the industrial competitiveness and economic growth of the U.S. by strengthening the linkages between the laboratories of the Department of Energy and the private sector and by supporting the development and application of technologies critical to the economic, scientific and technological competitiveness of the U.S.

SD-366

MARCH 19

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the purposes of foreign aid in the post-cold war era.

SD-192

MARCH 22

9:30 a.m.

## Environment and Public Works

## Toxic Substances, Research and Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the environmental impact of accelerated research and development in the renewable energy sector.

SD-406

MARCH 23

9:30 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To resume hearings on S. 473, to promote the industrial competitiveness and economic growth of the U.S. by strengthening the linkages between the laboratories of the Department of Energy and the private sector and by supporting the development and application of technologies critical to the economic, scientific and technological competitiveness of the U.S.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

## Public Lands, National Parks and Forests Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on radio and television broadcast use fees on public lands, focusing on a report of the Radio and Television Broadcast Use Fee Advisory Committee.

SD-366

MARCH 24

9:30 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To continue hearings on S. 473, to promote the industrial competitiveness and economic growth of the U.S. by strengthening the linkages between the laboratories of the Department of Energy and the private sector and by supporting the development and application of technologies critical to the economic, scientific and technological competitiveness of the U.S.

SD-366

MARCH 30

9:30 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on the science of global climate change.

SD-366

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for foreign assistance.

SD-G50

2:30 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for foreign assistance, focusing on multilateral assistance funding and policy issues.

SD-138

MARCH 31

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of AMVETS, the Veterans of World War I, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the American Ex-Prisoners of War, and the Non Commissioned Officers Association. 44345 Cannon Building

APRIL 1

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the Federal Highway Administration, focusing on implementation of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act.

SD-116

APRIL 20

2:30 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for foreign assistance, focusing on sustainable development goals and strategies.

SD-138

APRIL 21

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the Department of Transportation.

SD-192

APRIL 27

9:30 a.m.

## Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine environmental problems in the Federal Government.

SD-342

MAY 4

2:30 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine foreign assistance and U.S. international economic and commercial interests.

SD-138

MAY 6

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the Fed-

eral Aviation Administration, focusing on procurement reform.

SD-138

MAY 11

2:30 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine foreign assistance and U.S. foreign policy and security interests.

SD-138

MAY 13

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the U.S. Coast Guard, focusing on marine safety.

SD-138

MAY 18

2:30 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine foreign assistance and transnational issues, focusing on population, environment, health, narcotics, and anti-terrorism issues.

SD-138

MAY 25

2:30 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on foreign assistance and the transition to democracy in the former Soviet Union and eastern Europe.

SD-138

MAY 27

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, focusing on drunk driving.

SD-138

JUNE 8

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for foreign assistance.

SD-138

## POSTPONEMENTS

MARCH 9

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on reforming the Agency for International Development's structure and goals.

SD-192

2:30 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings on the status and future direction of the Department of Energy's fusion program, focusing on the Department's activities relating to the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) Program.

SD-366