EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO DELAINE NELSON

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the accomplishments of Delaine Nelson, a constituent of mine and Wisconsin's own renaissance woman. For the past year, Delaine has served as president of the National Utility Contractors Association [NUCA], an organization representing the construction contractors and suppliers who provide the manpower and materials necessary for the construction of water, sewer, and other underground utility systems. In this capacity, she has shown the leadership and dedication that Wisconsin has been the beneficiary of for over 17 years. It is time that her accomplishments be known above ground.

Much of the work of Ms. Nelson, and the many men and women she represents, remains hidden from public view. Yet, well-built, well-maintained sewer systems and wastewater treatment facilities are necessary to ensure the public health and safety. Delaine Nelson has dedicated her career to this task.

As chairman of the Board of MRM, Inc., a New Berlin; WI, company, Ms. Nelson is known for her efforts on behalf of worker safety. In 1988, she was the first woman appointed to the Occupational Health and Safety Administration's advisory committee on safety and health. Indeed, in an industry that has traditionally been dominated by men, Ms. Nelson has paved the way for other women to succeed and excel.

Beyond all this, she has found time to be active in a local program to feed and clothe the homeless, teach Sunday school and vacation Bible school, and participate in a long list of hobbies. Delaine is a mother of four and a grandmother of nine.

If the past is any indication, Delaine Nelson's service to the industry, and to her community, will not end with the completion of her presidential term at NUCA. Certainly, Wisconsin will be the better for it.

The following article which appeared in the National Utility Contractor in May of 1992 illustrates why Delaine Nelson is one of Wisconsin's most accomplished leaders.

1991 NUCA PRESIDENT DELAINE NELSON: A DRIVEN AND ACCOMPLISHED LEADER

(By Anne Beall)

"The construction industry is ever growing and ever changing. That's why I'm here," 1992 NUCA president Delaine Nelson said when asked why she chose to pursue a career in construction. "It constantly presents challenges, and I love a challenge."

When talking to Delaine, it quickly becomes clear that she thrives on accomplishment. As she sits behind her desk, in an office filled with unique Southwestern prints and collectibles, she radiates confidence. Pictures of Delaine with members of OSHA's Advisory Committee and previous Secretaries of Labor Anne McLaughlin and Elizabeth Dole reinforce her reputation as totally committed to safety. A closer look around the office illustrates how her confidence and commitment have paid off—dozens of awards blanket the walls.

After 17 years of days filled with all the good jobs that moms do—girl scout leader, room mother, fill-in coach for dad's little league team—Delaine decided to begin working part-time. "My youngest son was thirteen years old, and I was ready to find more to do," she said. "I started out working just three days a week, but before I knew it, I had given up bowling and was working full-time. I was hooked."

Delaine was no stranger to construction. Her husband, Chuck, a chiropractor by profession, had been part owner and an executive of Mueller Pipeliners since 1954. "I really liked working again," Delaine recalls. "I liked the industry, and I liked the excitement. I knew that I would face skepticism as a woman and that it would be a challenge to pursue a career in construction. That's partly what made it so enticing for me," she said.

Seventeen years later, it's apparent that her hard work and dedication have paid off. Today, she sits as an owner and administrative vice president of MRM, Inc., where she directs safety and training.

A CINDERELLA STORY?

How did this mother of four break down the barriers facing a woman in a traditionally male industry? Persistence. "I encountered the most skepticism from the guys in the field," Delaine remembers. "They weren't very comfortable with me dictating safety to them. But I didn't let myself get turned off by it. Initially, I accepted it as part of the industry."

Determined to overcome the obstacles and learn the ins and outs of the industry, Delaine read everything she could get her hands on, talked to everyone in the field, listened carefully to everything she heard, watched closely what was happening at the jobsites, and asked question after question after question. And she learned. "I knew I had to be able to talk their jargon and understand the details on the jobsites. The guys in the field had a lot of good ideas," she said. "I began taking their ideas back to the office and giving them recognition if we implemented their ideas. I think they appreciated that. It helped them recognize that I was on their side." It didn't take long for Delaine to gain the respect of the company's management and employees.

A PARADOXICAL RELATIONSHIP

"Probably the most discouraging, yet rewarding, experience that I have had with the industry was my involvement with the OSHA Advisory Committee," Delaine said. In 1988, then Secretary of Labor Ann McLaughlin appointed Delaine to OSHA's Advisory Committee on Safety and Health. Delaine was the first representative of the underground utility construction industry to serve on the committee.

The committee is comprised of 15 members (five representing employers, five representing labor, and five representing the public sector) and is responsible for advising the Secretary of Labor on issues pertaining to safety and health in the construction industry. "The first year that I sat on the committee had its frustrations. I was the first woman ever appointed to the committee, and it took some time for the members to accept my ideas," she said. "It's like anything else—as a woman, I had to prove myself."

As the committee moved into its second year, committee members really began working well together, Delaine said. When OSHA proposed revisions to Subpart P, the group came together to develop commonsense ideas on how OSHA should proceed. "Fortunately, labor supported our issues, so we were able to work without antagonizing each other," she remembers. "I advised the committee that 60 days was not nearly enough time for contractors to develop training materials and conduct training seminars, and the committee agreed." OSHA delayed enforcement of the standard for an additional 60 days, based on the unanimous recommendation of the advisory committee.

"It was extremely fulfilling to see that I was able to be part of a policy decision that directly affected our industry. My only regret is that all of this happened at the end of my two-year term and that I was unable to continue," she said. "I felt like the group was gaining momentum and was sorry that the group would have to start over again." Participation on the advisory committee was a wonderful learning and growing experience for Delaine. "To sit at the table with the leaders of all sectors of the industry and to be involved in substantive debate was extremely rewarding. I'd do it all over again at a moment's notice," she said.

AN AWARD WINNING COMMITMENT TO IMPROVED JOBSITE SAFETY

Safety and Delaine Nelson go hand-in-hand. Her reputation for innovative safety ideas and her company's impeccable safety record are well known across the industry.

When Delaine became active in the industry 17 years ago, industry safety programs were in their infancy. "Back in 1975, OSHA had only been in existence for five years, and there wasn't broad-based recognition of worker safety. Employees were given protective gear and an occasional tool-box talk, and that was the extent of it," Delaine explained.

Over the years, as safety awareness has increased, Delaine Nelson and MRM have been in the forefront—and in many ways, they have set the standard. "We knew that jobsite safety was going to become a major issue for us, so we started developing programs early," Delaine said. Delaine developed the company's first safety guide and began conducting regular self-inspections in the field. While in the field, she talked to the inspectors and the employees in an effort to better understand the company's safety needs. She then took it one step further and visited several equipment manufacturers to see how the equipment was manufactured and tested.

What began several years ago as a standard company safety program has evolved into one of the most comprehensive safety programs in the country. Since 1981, the com-

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pany has been the recipient of at least one safety award each year, including the highest safety award from NUCA and the Wisconsin Underground Contractors' Association. And Delaine can take most of the credit for that—although she is hesitant to.

"All I've done is put the systems into place. Our employees have made our safety program what it is today," she said. And the program is impressive. Under Delaine's watchful eye, the company holds a week-long safety school each year for the company's foremen and superintendents. The company brings in the state's best safety experts to discuss myriad safety issues, including defensive driving, natural gas safety, jobsite protection, trenching, and traffic control. The company also holds an eight-hour winter safety seminar for all of its employees and has implemented an extensive safety recognition and awards program. Safety newsletters, a trench safety program, company tool-box talks, and safety workshops are other major elements of their safety program.

The company's safety program was greatly expanded in 1989, when Delaine brought Jim Kurth, a 20-year foreman, into the main office to assist her with the safety field work. "As our safety manager, Jim has been instrumental in the recent growth of our safety program," Delaine said.

During the company's upcoming annual banquet, MRM will honor several employees that have been with the organization for 30 years. In addition, the company will present awards of thanks to 20-year and 10-year employees. That fact, alone, speaks volumes about the company—employees love to work for MRM.

Harold Mueller, chairman of the board of MRM, believes that the safety program that Delaine has developed for the company has been a major factor in the company's exceptionally low employee-turnover rate. "By having a strong safety program, employees know and understand that their employers are concerned about them," he said. "It makes them happy, and it makes them more productive, which, in turn, makes the company as a whole run and perform better."

GIVING BACK TO THE INDUSTRY

Delaine's safety skills do not stop with her company. As an active member of the Wisconsin Underground Contractors' Association (WUCA), Delaine has been instrumental in the association's establishment of a safety task force. The task force, comprised of safety directors from member companies, meets regularly to review safety standards, plan safety seminars, and compose and distribute safety-related letters to state legislators and agency officials. Currently, the task force is developing a statewide safety guide for underground utility contractors. "Delaine's leadership and advice throughout the years have helped to make our association one of the most informative on safety issues in the area," said Dick Wanta, WUCA executive director. "Her company's safety efforts have done a lot to raise safety awareness among our members and across the state."

Delaine's safety consciousness was also a primary reason that she became involved in NUCA. In January 1982, she attended NUCA's educational seminar in Puerto Rico. A few months later, she attended NUCA's national convention in Phoenix, Ariz. "Our company had belonged to several organizations, but once we became involved with NUCA, nothing compared," Delaine said. "We quickly learned that NUCA is a unique organization. You're an individual at NUCA, and members care about you as a person."

It wasn't long after the company joined the NUCA that Delaine became an active part of the committees. "Loretta Simmons and Vic DiGeronimo were strong influences in my becoming involved with NUCA so quickly," Delaine said. "Loretta wanted me on NUCA's safety committee, and Vic asked me to head a special task force. They were both so supportive, and I found that I really loved working with NUCA members."

Soon after her introduction to NUCA committees, Delaine moved into leadership roles—finance committee chairman, region V vice president, treasurer, president elect, and finally president.

A FULL PLATE FOR 1992

Looking ahead to what she will bring to her presidency, Delaine is focused and clear. "We will pick up where 1991 president Ron Pacella left off," Delaine said of her legislative goals for 1992. "Ron laid a strong foundation for securing adequate construction funding under the Clear Water Act. We will accomplish this goal during 1992. We really have no other choice."

Also at the top of Delaine's legislative laundry list is the defeat of H.R. 3160, the so-called OSHA reform legislation now pending in Congress. "Our industry has documented dedication to workplace safety, but we cannot support a bill that holds our management personally liable for workplace safety but does not take employee responsibility into account. Nor can we support a bill that sets one model and does not provide for employer flexibility in developing a safety program," she said. Although Delaine concedes that it is unlikely that we will be able to defeat the entire bill, she does believe we can influence the final version to make it more workable for contractors.

The investment tax credit will be a major focus of Delaine's presidency as well. By working closely with major manufacturers and talking with key lawmakers. Delaine believes that NUCA can make a difference and convince Congress that reinstatement of tax incentives would and should relieve the struggling economy.

Outside the legislative arena, Delaine will continue to give a high priority to NUCA's safety programs. During 1992, NUCA will hold another series of competent-person instructor training courses, as well as begin a new safety training series on confined-space entry. In addition, NUCA's safety committee is currently conducting a comprehensive revision of the NUCA Safety Manual, which will be completed by mid-1992.

Delaine also hopes to make major strides in membership development and retention. "I would like to see our membership grow and become more solid," Delaine said. "Our chapters could be the core of this effort. With NUCA's assistance, our chapters will grow and become stronger, and in turn, with the assistance and commitment of our chapters, NUCA will grow stronger. If we help each other, we will become more solid."

A BRIGHT FUTURE

When asked what's in store for the future of underground utility construction, Delaine is extremely positive. "Members often hear me say that overburdensome regulations are killing American business. But not all the regulation and legislation has been bad. A lot of laws and regulations have been forced upon the industry, but there is a flip side to this. Some good has come out of it. Tighter restrictions have significantly increased contractor awareness and have prompted many contractors to become more involved in the process, which has resulted in a stronger collective voice. I believe that the industry will be on solid ground for the next few years. There's a lot of work out there, we just have to shake the money loose," she said.

"That's why we belong to NUCA and why I chose to become so active. NUCA actively seeks to effect change and help the industry to grow, and I would like to be part of that process," she said.

MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

Behind her trademark pink hard hat, clipboard, and safety seminars lurks another very different, yet similar individual. Delaine's dedication and commitment to helping others carries over to her life outside of the construction industry. As an active member of her church, where she taught Sunday school and vacation Bible school, Delaine is active in a program to feed and clothe the homeless. "I really enjoy my work with the homeless. I love to give to others, and they are so appreciative."

Delaine's life is filled with her family. She beams with pride as she talks about life as a mom of four and a grandma of nine. Her daughter Kathy owns a travel agency and has three children. Sharon, another daughter, has three children and designs and publishes the company's tool-box talks and newsletters from her home. Her sons, Charles, who has two children, and Richard, who has one child, own a metal polishing and deburring business. "My husband, Chuck, as well as my children have been very supportive of my decision to take on the NUCA presidency. They have just been great," she said.

With a life filled with so much activity and family, it's hard to imagine how Delaine finds time for the many other activities that she regularly undertakes—travelling, golfing, scuba diving, downhill skiing, and growing roses.

IT SAYS "VROOMM"

As I took one last glance back at the offices of MRM before I returned from the interview with Delaine, my eye caught the license plate of the sparkling blue Mercedes that she drives around Milwaukee. It reads "VROOMM." The plate is indicative of the type of woman who recently took over the NUCA presidency—an energetic, intelligent, and driven leader. How else would you describe a women who beat the odds to climb to the top of her profession. NUCA will be in good hands in 1992.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 46, THE JOINT COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER REGION

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday February 18, 1993, I introduced legislation to create a joint commission for the United States-Mexico border region. The creation of such a commission is long overdue. It is needed to address the escalation of environmental and public health problems in the region, and I believe both the United States and Mexico should agree to the terms of such a joint commission before the implementation of the North American Free-Trade Agreement [NAFTA].

House Concurrent Resolution 46 does not offer a specific solution to every single envi-

ronmental concern raised by the NAFTA, but it does contain a broad array of elements that address significant environmental problems and offers an outline as to how the United States and Mexico can work bilaterally to solve them.

The people who live along the United States-Mexico border are on the frontline of the two countries' environmental and public health problems. Air pollution, contamination of ground water and surface water supplies, and explosive levels of population and poverty over the past decade have degraded the border environment and left the region's environmental infrastructure substandard, at best, and, in far too many cases, simply nonexistent. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] has put a $5 to $7 billion price tag on the region's problems.

United States-Mexico border residents recognize that not all the region's problems will go away overnight, but they do need and should expect from their central governments better coordination of existing resources and new financial strategies to allow border area cities and towns to help themselves. My proposed joint commission for the United States-Mexico border region is aimed at accomplishing those goals. House Concurrent Resolution 46 would: First, improve coordination of environmental protection activities between the United States and Mexico along the border and on a nationwide basis; second, provide small border communities access to international capital markets for financing environmental infrastructure projects; third, provide United States technical expertise to Mexico in such areas as regulatory development, environmental impact assessment, hazardous waste management, pollution prevention, and conservation; fourth, require all companies with operations in the United States-Mexico border to comply with reporting procedures similar to those under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act; fifth, promote voluntary service and increased corporate philanthropy in the border area; and sixth, facilitate greater public participation through the establishment of regional border offices and a bilateral consultative process, which may include the holding of public hearings and the appointment of investigatory environmental boards.

This commission does not seek to duplicate the functions of the International Boundary and Water Commission [IBWC] or those to be carried out under the United States-Mexico Integrated Border Plan. Both the IBWC and EPA's Integrated Border Plan play an instrumental role in providing the border region with resources and funding for a small number of very large projects. For example, EPA has already committed a total of $146 million in fiscal year 1993 for environmental projects on the United States side of the border. Similarly, Mexico has committed $460 million over 3 years to carry out commitments under the border plan. While the border plan represents a historic undertaking for both countries, I would emphasize that this bilateral initiative deals primarily with a small number of large environmental infrastructure projects such as the $350 million Tijuana River wastewater treatment facility and similar facilities in Nogales and Laredo/Nuevo Laredo border communities.

That leaves dozens of small border communities without sufficient resources to finance their long-term environmental infrastructure needs, and so far the United States and Mexico have not figured out a financing strategy to assist these communities. To address this problem, the joint commission will establish and oversee a Border Environmental Guaranty Fund [BEGF], the purpose of which is to provide financial guaranties for the repayment of debt instruments that are issued by private and public financial organizations. The proceeds from such debt instruments will be used by border area communities to create, replace, or improve environmental infrastructure facilities. And it will be the residents of these border area communities who make payments on these debt instruments through a system of user fee charges established by the local environmental facility.

I want to emphasize to my colleagues that the BEGF does not finance environmental projects. Rather the BEGF will be capitalized by the United States and Mexico at no less than $200 million, an amount that will allow for well over $2 billion in private funds to be raised in capital markets by local border area governments that use the guaranty of the fund. The $2 billion in private funds is the revenue used for construction of environmental facilities, and the $200 million stays in the fund as collateral against all bonds issued by local border area governments.

The function of the BEGF therefore is twofold. First, it will upgrade the investment grade rating given to such bonds as water and wastewater system bonds from noninvestment grade [NIG]—essentially junk bonds—to investment grade rating and thereby lower the cost of constructing environmental facilities considerably. Second, the BEGF will act as a guarantor for bondholders of environmental facilities in those instances when a facility is delinquent on its bond payments. Let me use an example to illustrate this point. If a local government in the border area issues a bond to construct a wastewater treatment facility and a revenue shortfall experienced by the facility prevents it from making its full payment to bondholders, then the BEGF steps in to make the facility's payments in full and on a timely basis. Once the wastewater treatment facility resumes payments, it will make up the missed payments to the fund.

The U.S. experience with water and wastewater bonds demonstrates that delinquency on payments—not outright default—is the most significant problem for small water and wastewater systems. It should be expected, therefore, that the BEGF will use its funds to pay for delinquent payments, but the BEGF will also have those expended funds replenished. In other words, the BEGF will use its funds, but it will also get them back. Since outright default on small water and wastewater bonds is exceedingly low, this is how the BEGF is expected to operate.

While the BEGF will be established in a way that allows for the joint participation of Mexico, it can operate solely as a domestic fund to assist United States border communities in securing financing for environmental infrastructure projects in their region. It will be Mexico's decision to put capital into the fund, but in doing so, Mexico will obviously have to establish a public securities market for environmental projects and create a system where water and sewer bonds are paid off with user fees charged to the environmental facility's users.

The establishment of the BEGF will be consistent with the way capital improvement projects are financed in the United States. U.S. local governments—not the Federal Government—usually pays for the cost for the construction of environmental infrastructure projects such as wastewater treatment facilities, drinking water hookups, and solid and hazardous waste landfills. The creation of the Border Environmental Guaranty Fund recognizes the primary role of local governments and is established with the purpose of allowing these border communities to continue paying the cost of constructing these facilities.

What the guaranty fund will allow is local border communities to raise money for environmental infrastructure at a cost that is comparable to that of similar facilities in large cities. The total annualized local government cost to implement major environmental regulations continues to rise well beyond the rate of inflation. These increased costs have hit small border communities especially hard. Per capita, smaller border communities are paying more for environmental protection than those Americans living in larger urban centers. For many border communities, the costs have become prohibitive, leaving many border residents without drinking water and adequate wastewater facilities.

It is clear that Washington and Mexico City will never have the adequate financial resources to assist all of these communities. That is why it is imperative for the United States and Mexico to establish a credit enhancement mechanism, such as the BEGF, to supplement existing bilateral commitments under the border plan, so as to allow communities greater self-reliance in financing locally needed environmental infrastructure projects over the long term.

The technical cooperation program outlined in this legislation will expand efforts already underway between the United States and Mexico to improve Mexico's environmental quality of life by helping Mexico to capacity build at the Government level. The reason is simple. At the present time, there are only a limited number of trained Government personnel in areas such as environmental protection, conservation, and pesticide regulation for the agricultural industry. To broaden Mexico's capacity in these and other areas, the technical cooperation program will provide assistance, offering the country temporary personnel exchanges from a variety of United States agencies in the areas of the environment and public health.

House Concurrent Resolution 46 also requires companies with operations in the United States-Mexico border region to comply with reporting requirements similar to those under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act. This provision seeks to have both the United States and Mexico reach agreement on a formalized process to abide by community right-to-know principles and to facilitate public access to this information. The establishment of regional border offices by the commission will provide the border area com-

munities with more outreach and oversight of environmental issues impacting their communities.

This legislation seeks to promote voluntary service and increased corporate philanthropy in the border region. Presently, the U.S. Small Business Association administers the Senior Corps of Retired Executives [SCORE], a Government-sponsored program that recruits retired professionals in a variety of business disciplines to provide their expertise, to small businesses across the country. Through a broad-based SCORE program, professionals in public health, civil engineering, environmental sciences, urban planning, and architecture would be sought to provide voluntary service to local governments, nonprofit organizations, and small businesses on both sides of the United States-Mexico border. As for the companies with operations in the border region, their record of corporate giving to their communities is horrible. One of the activities of the commission should be to promote more involvement and philanthropy among corporations operating in the border area.

Mr. Speaker, the United States and Mexico not only need each other to prosper economically but also to strengthen environmental protection along its shared border and in both countries. In the coming months the United States and Mexico will be negotiating side agreements to the NAFTA to address many of the concerns about the environment. It is my hope that House Concurrent Resolution 46 gives negotiators from both countries an accurate outline of the elements that must be a part of any environmental side agreement. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the text of House Concurrent Resolution 46 be printed in the RECORD after this statement.

H. CON. RES. 46

Whereas the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) will increase the flow of commerce and trade between the United States and Mexico;

Whereas the lack of environmental facilities, enforcement, and economic growth in the United States-Mexico border region has caused widespread public health problems and environmental problems, including serious degradation of air quality, quality and availability of transboundary ground water and surface water supplies, and soil quality;

Whereas increased levels of commerce, trade, and economic development under NAFTA will exacerbate the existing public health problems and environment problems in such border region;

Whereas, although economic growth under NAFTA will also create more resources to protect the environment in such border region, such resources will not make an immediate or significant reduction in the border region's public health problems and environmental problems;

Whereas such health and environmental problems will necessitate expanding the level of bilateral environmental cooperation between the United States and Mexico;

Whereas one method of bilateral environmental cooperation would be to establish a joint commission aimed at complimenting the activities of the International Boundary and Water Commission, alleviating public health problems and environmental problems in the United States-Mexico border region, and expanding bilateral environmental cooperation on a nationwide basis;

Whereas there has been great concern expressed both in the United States and in Mexico that insufficient financial resources exist at the Federal levels in both nations to deal with the public health problems and environmental problems in such border region;

Whereas the best alternative to Federal funding for projects to alleviate public health problems and environmental problems in such border region is to establish access to the international capital markets for public and private financial organizations with the power to incur and issue debt;

Whereas the establishment of access to the international capital markets for public and private financial organizations would initially require a form of credit enhancement for any debt instruments issued by such organizations;

Whereas the debt instruments issued by such organizations would be used to fund projects to create, replace, or improve the environmental infrastructure facilities in the United States-Mexico border region;

Whereas the users of environmental infrastructure facilities in both the United States and Mexico would be the revenue base for the repayment on such instruments issued by such organizations;

Whereas currently no means of credit enhancement exist to guarantee the debt of such organizations;

Whereas there is mutual agreement between the United States and Mexico to increase technical assistance provided between the two nations relating to environmental issues;

Whereas there is a need to promote greater public participation and public disclosure relating to public health issues and environmental issues in the United States-Mexico border region, including requiring businesses located in the Mexican part of such border region to comply with reporting requirements similar to the hazardous substances reporting requirements under United States Federal law; and

Whereas there is a need to promote greater voluntary service and corporate philantrophy in such border region: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This concurrent resolution may be cited as the "Joint Commission for the United States-Mexico Border Region Resolution".

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF BILATERAL COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Congress urges the President to reach an agreement with Mexico on the establishment of a joint commission (in this concurrent resolution referred to as the "Commission") between the United States and Mexico to help alleviate public health problems and environmental problems in the United States-Mexico border region caused by the lack of environmental infrastructure capacity in such border region, the growing shortages of ground and surface water resources shared by both nations, and by the increased levels of commerce, trade, and economic development under the North American Free Trade Agreement (in this concurrent resolution referred to as "NAFTA").

(b) TIME LIMIT.—The agreement described in subsection (a) should be reached not later than the effective date of the legislation implementing NAFTA.

SEC. 3. COMPOSITION.

The Commission should be composed of 12 members, 6 of whom should represent the United States and 6 of whom should represent Mexico. Of the 6 members representing the United States, the President should appoint—

(1) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency as the head of the United States delegation;

(2) the Commissioner of the United States section of the International Boundary and Water Commission; and

(3) one representative from—

(A) the Department of Health and Human Services;

(B) the Department of the Interior;

(C) the Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

(D) the Department of Agriculture.

SEC. 4. DUTIES.

(a) BORDER ENVIRONMENTAL GUARANTY FUND.—The Commission should establish and oversee a Border Environmental Guaranty Fund (in this concurrent resolution referred to as the "Fund") to provide financial guarantees for the repayment of debt instruments issued by public and private financial organizations, the proceeds of which are used to fund projects to create, replace, or improve the environmental infrastructure in the United States-Mexico border region. The Fund should meet the following requirements:

(1) The United States and Mexico should each contribute not less than $100,000,000 to the Fund.

(2) The obligations of the Fund should not have any guaranty, express or implied, of the United States Government.

(3) The guaranty of the Fund should confer on underlying debt instruments issued by public and private financial organizations the lowest investment grade ratings from independent and internationally recognized securities rating organizations for the purpose of leveraging the Fund to the maximum extent possible so that the greatest possible ratio exists between the amount of debt guaranteed by the Fund and the amount of capital in the Fund.

(4) The Fund should have a board of directors to provide financial management of the Fund and management of projects guaranteed by the Fund. The board should be composed of 10 members, 5 of whom should represent the United States and 5 of whom should represent Mexico.

(5) Members of the board should be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their duties, and such expenses should be paid for equally by both the United States and Mexico.

(6) The board should be provided with an independent staff in order to carry out its duties in a prudent and timely manner.

(b) TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM.—The Commission should establish a program to provide for technical assistance and the exchange of personnel for environmental coordination activities between the United States and Mexico including the provision of technical assistance to Mexico from representatives of the Environmental Protection Agency and other relevant Federal agencies), including training in activities such as environmental impact assessment, the development of environmental standards, enforcement of such standards, pollution prevention and control, the control of the use of pesticides, waste management, response to chemical emergencies, toxic emissions reporting, marine pollution, conservation activities, and urban planning and infrastructure development.

(c) PROCEDURES TO PROMOTE INCREASED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.—The Commission should establish procedures to promote increased public participation and public disclosure re-

lating to public health issues and environmental issues in the United States-Mexico border region. In establishing such procedures, the Commission should meet the following requirements:

(1) The Commission should establish no fewer than 2 regional border offices to foster community outreach, public participation, and border volunteer initiatives in the United States-Mexico border region.

(2) The Commission should be given the authority to require businesses located in the Mexican part of the United States-Mexico border region to comply with reporting requirements similar to those described in the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 11001 note).

(3) The Commission should consult with the Border Environmental Public Advisory Committee of the Environmental Protection Agency so that expertise from the private and public sectors is readily available to the Commission in the areas of public health, agriculture, housing and urban development, conservation, and public voluntary service.

(d) UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER REGION VOLUNTEER SERVICE.—The Commission should, in conjunction with the Commission on National and Community Service, establish a United States-Mexico Border Volunteer Service, which—

(1) in cooperation with the Small Business Administration, should work to expand the activities of the Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) in the fields of public health, civil engineering, environmental sciences, urban planning, and architecture;

(2) should provide assistance and advice to border area not-for-profit organizations on projects aimed at addressing the array of environmental health, housing, and social service needs of the United States-Mexico border region; and

(3) should promote initiatives aimed at increasing the level of corporate philanthropy among businesses in the United States-Mexico border region for the purpose of alleviating public health problems and environmental problems in such border region.

SEC. 5. POWERS.

(a) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Commission should, for the purpose of carrying out its duties under section 4, hold hearings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and receive evidence as the Commission considers appropriate, including holding hearings on all matters and issues under the jurisdiction of the International Boundary and Water Commission. All such hearings should be open to the public.

(b) APPOINTMENT OF INVESTIGATORY BOARDS.—The Commission should appoint 1 or more boards composed of qualified individuals to conduct on the behalf of the Commission investigations and studies which the Commission determines necessary to provide oversight of the Fund described in section 4(a) and the technical cooperation program described in section 4(b).

SEC. 6. REPORTS.

The Commission should submit an annual report to both the United States Government and the Government of Mexico regarding all activities of the Commission during the current year.

SEC. 7. UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER REGION DEFINED.

For purposes of this concurrent resolution, the term "United States-Mexico border region" means the area located in the United States and Mexico within approximately 65 miles of the border between the United States and Mexico.

AMERICAN AND UNITED NATIONS TROOPS SHOULD BE PLACED IN MACEDONIA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the United States faces serious limitations on what we are able to do to bring an end to the bloodshed and violence in Bosnia. On the one hand, we want to see stronger action, tougher action, to punish the Serbian aggressors who have engaged in ethnic cleansing, systematic rape of girls and women, and blockades to starve out Bosnian Moslems. At the same time, however, we have been unwilling to send American ground forces into Bosnia to lift the siege of Sarajevo or break the blockade against other encircled Bosnian enclaves.

Last Thursday, Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski appeared before a joint hearing of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East and the Subcommittee on International Security, International Organizations and Human Rights. Dr. Brzezinski gave an excellent presentation regarding the limitations and opportunities for collective security in this post-cold war-era. In his excellent discussion of the lessons of Bosnia, Dr. Brzezinski noted that one concrete step the United States can and should take is the stationing of United Nations peacekeeping troops—including United States troops—in the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia and possibly in Kosovo.

Mr. Speaker, today's New York Times published an op-ed by Walter Russell Mead, a senior counselor at the World Policy Institute, in which he considered the issue of placing American troops in the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia. I ask that Mr. Mead's article be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. He presents clearly and convincingly the arguments in favor of placing American troops as part of a United Nations contingent in Macedonia, and it is an issue to which our colleagues in the Congress should give serious and thoughtful consideration. It represents an important and effective step that the United States can take, but at the same time it is one that involves limited risks.

PUT AMERICAN TROOPS IN MACEDONIA

(By Walter Russell Mead)

NEW ORLEANS.—So far, Washington's Balkan policy has been built on principles of bluster and bluff. Speak loudly, but leave the stick at home.

The Serbian leaders, says the U.S., are war criminals who should all be brought to trial. The Vance-Owen peace plan, which brings those same Serbs to the negotiating table, was derided by Americans eager to take a stronger stand. The Europeans who backed it were pusillanimous, we said. The Vance-Owen plan rewarded aggression, we said.

It was all very exhilarating and all very true. But it was all empty bombast as well. When push came to shove, the U.S. had no alternative to Vance-Owen and fell humbly, humiliatingly in line with the spineless Europeans and their appeasement of war criminals.

The double-minded man is unstable in all his ways, warns the Bible. It would be hard to find a better description of American policy in the former Yugoslavia. The U.S. has two paramount goals: it wants to stop ethnic cleansing, and it wants to stay out of the war. These goals are moral, they are prudent and, if achieved, they advance the national interest. They are also incompatible, and the contradiction between these irreconcilable and but non-negotiable objectives has plunged the Balkan policy of the last two Administrations into sordid and wretched chaos.

If this were the end of the story, we could live with it. There have been bad peace treaties before, and harsh bargains with evil leaders—worse proposals than Vance-Owen. And there have been bigger diplomatic blunders than the fiasco launched under the Bush Administration by Lawrence Eagleburger and continued by Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Unfortunately, the Balkan tragedy has two or three more acts to come, and American braggadocio—the mixture of bluster and cowardice that still guides our policy—is the policy most likely to widen the war.

Even as Washington caved in by accepting the basic outline of the peace plan, the U.S. was preparing for new crises down the road. Some peace plan! Mr. Christopher's statement on the Vance-Owen proposal included not only a surrender on Bosnia by ratifying Serbian territorial conquests but new threats to Serbia, lest it move into the neighboring republic of Macedonia and into the Serbian province of Kosovo, where restive ethnic Albanians are likely targets for a new round of brutal ethnic cleansing.

The combination of brave words and craven deeds is unlikely to impress the Serbian warlords in whose bloody hands the chances for peace now rest. The West talked big but did little over Croatia. It huffed and puffed over Bosnia but did nothing. Now it is on its high horse over Kosovo. The U.S. looks imposing but like a scarecrow it never moves, and the Serbs have figured that out.

It all seems sadly ridiculous, but it's worse than that. The U.S. has interests in the Balkans important enough to fight for and that will, if challenged, drag a reluctant nation into a new and nasty not-so-little war. Ethnic cleansing in Kosovo is likely to provoke war with Albania and destabilization in Macedonia, where there are also large and restless Serb and Albanian communities. Neither Bulgaria nor Greece could easily stay neutral if the war spreads to Macedonia, and, in a worst-case scenario, Turkey could find itself drawn in as well.

The U.S. could not finesse this situation. A war that puts Greece and Turkey on opposite sides would break up NATO and seriously strain the U.S.-European relationship and the already-frayed European Community. The U.S. and Germany would almost certainly tilt toward Turkey; Britain and France would probably support the Greeks—and so might the Russians.

The prevention of this wider Balkan war is the vital interest that should shape American policy. The U.S. needs to stop the Serbs where they are, but it does not need to roll them back. To do that, we must convince them that further attacks would mean war. This won't be easy after so many false warnings.

Sending peacekeeping troops to Bosnia is the most likely form of U.S. military intervention at this stage. Unfortunately, it is the least satisfactory approach. American peacekeeping troops there would become hostages to events in Kosovo and Macedonia. Just as Britain and France opposed the enforcement of the "no fly" zone over Bosnia

because of the risk to their peacekeeping troops, the U.S. would have to take the safety of its Bosnian peacekeepers into account when responding to Serbian aggression in neighboring republics.

The best solution—radical-sounding but on balance the most prudent course—would put American troops where they might still preserve the peace: Macedonia. With or without formal recognition of the ex-Yugoslav republic, a temporary dispatch of at least 50,000 troops—preferably multinational but in any case including a large proportion of well-equipped Americans—would send a tough message to Serbia without provoking war.

Unlike peacekeepers in Bosnia, these troops would not come under hostile fire; they would defend the independence and territorial integrity of a country that the U.S. very much needs to preserve. The multilateral force would also be authorized to protect the Albanian majority in Kosovo from Serbian attack. Without firing a shot, these troops would significantly reduce the chance that the Yugoslav war would widen, and they would introduce a new note of realism into Serbia's distracted councils.

But even if fighting spreads to Macedonia, the multilateral presence will help avoid the worst: splitting our most important alliance and straining our relationships with every important country in Europe and the Middle East.

This military policy needs a diplomatic strategy to succeed. The U.S. should win British, French and Greek support for the peacekeeping mission. Washington should also develop with the Russians a peace program that the Serbs can accept. At the same time the signal to Serbia should be softer.

Instead of talking about Nazi-type war trials, which the U.N. Security Council is expected to vote for this week, the United Nations and Washington should be talking about regional reconstruction and the benefits of cooperation. It may go against the grain to let criminals go unpunished, but no major country has any intention of dismantling the Serbian Government by force and arresting its leaders. Nor, realistically, is the world ready for a prolonged boycott of Serbia that would destabilize the region even further and prevent any change for future prosperity.

Our Balkan policy is too important to be based on illusions. No lasting peace is possible without Serbian participation, and as long as the Serbs do not widen the war, the U.S. has nothing to gain and much to lose from a prolonged quarrel with Belgrade.

Clear thinking and decisive action—for a change—represent the only hope for a relatively safe path through the minefield. Otherwise, we are likely to be bloodied and humiliated by the most dangerous European crisis in 50 years.

GAYS, BUT NOT GAY BEHAVIOR

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one of the things of which we have too little in our public debates is an effort to make policy according to consistent principles, even when those principles might lead one to a result which one's political allies oppose.

The lead editorial in the Boston Herald for Monday, February 1, is an example of the way in which people ought to reach conclusions on significant public policy questions. I disagree with some aspects of the editorial, in its comments on President Clinton and more emphatically in its comments about homosexuality. But its main point articulates in a clear, compelling, and persuasive fashion what the policy of the U.S. Government ought to be with regard to gay men and lesbians serving in the military.

The final three paragraphs of this editorial state the appropriate principle—that individuals in the armed services should be judged on their behavior, and not on any basic characteristic—and also demonstrate how this ought to be applied, by making the clear cut distinction between activity on base, on duty, or in uniform and conduct which takes place off base, off duty, and out of uniform.

Mr. Speaker, I am impressed with this conclusion precisely because it comes from someone with whom I do disagree about some aspects of the question of homosexuality in general, and I applaud the intellectual integrity of the Herald's editorial board. The two sentences which conclude this editorial—"gays and lesbians can, and do, make superb soldiers. But their private sex lives, like all of ours, should remain, private"—sum up precisely what gay men and lesbians should be asking for. I am very pleased that the Boston Herald has made this significant contribution to this debate.

GAYS, BUT NOT GAY BEHAVIOR

It was inevitable that President Clinton's promise to lift the ban on gays in the armed forces would generate a firestorm of controversy. That is not an argument for or against it. But people may reasonably wonder why this issue had to be raised during Clinton's first week in office.

It's the economy, stupid—remember? "I am going to focus like a laser beam on this economy," said Clinton one day after the election. In his inaugural address, he described the economy as "weakened by . . . deep divisions among our own people." Does he think forcing into place a drastic new policy on a subject so explosive is going to heal those divisions?

In his first few days of piloting the ship of state, our 43-percent president has come in for heavy weather. His nomination of Zoe Baird came apart in his hands. His rash of abortion announcements last Friday galvanized pro-life enmity. His first pronouncements on nuts-and-bolts economic policy replaced a campaign promise of tax relief with a new threat of tax severity.

The nation does not need a wrenching debate over gays in the military right now. This could have waited.

But Pandora's box having been thrown wide open, the issue needs to be settled.

Three principles are relevant here.

First, the function of the military is to defend the national security of the United States. Unit cohesiveness is critical to that function. Any policy on military personnel must be judged, at least in part, by its effect on such cohesiveness.

Second, disapproval of homosexuality is not simply blind bigotry. The gay lifestyle is repudiated by every major religion. It is manifestly not normative. Basic decency requires each of us to regard homosexuals with tolerance and with an awareness that few people choose their sexual orientation. But neither decency nor wisdom requires that governments confer legitimacy on same-sex relationships, or treat them as a sort of coequal alternative to the bonds between men and women.

Third, there is a fundamental difference between *being* and *doing*. Your nature, your orientation, your thoughts, your urges—those must be irrelevant in the eyes of the law. Thus, you cannot be discharged from the Armed Forces for having a rebellious nature; it is only when you act rebelliously that you may be disciplined.

The best policy for the military is one that melds these principles. In effect, that is what U.S. District Judge Terry Hatter of the Central California district ordered last Thursday. Hatter struck down the ban on homosexuals and prohibited the military from discharging gays "in the absence of sexual conduct which interferes with the military mission."

The key decision Clinton announced Friday—ordering recruiters to stop asking applicants about their sexual preference—is the right one. It must remain quite clear, though, that any homosexual activity while on base, on duty, or in uniform continues to be forbidden. Gays and lesbians can, and do, make superb soldiers. But their private sex lives, like all of ours, should remain—private.

IN HONOR OF BILLY AND EMELYN KIRBY, CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY ON JANUARY 30, 1993

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. EDWARDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Billy and Emelyn Kirby who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on January 30, 1993.

It is indeed a special honor for me, Mr. Speaker, for I have known the Kirbys since my college days at Texas A&M. I owe a great debt of personal gratitude to Billy for teaching me the ways of Washington when I was a young college graduate working for the chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee nearly two decades ago. Then, as now, Billy was acknowledged as one of America's leading authorities on veterans' programs and health care.

The first pages of this uniquely American love story between Billy and Miss Em were written just before World War II in the town of Clifton, a village known throughout Bosque County and central Texas for its strong work ethic and rigid moral standards befitting the town's Norwegian founders. The Norwegian influence in Clifton was so strong that even after Billy and Miss Em had been dating for quite some time, Miss Em's father, a devout Lutheran minister, still referred to Billy as that American boy.

That American boy began his military career in 1940 as a member of Company K, 143d Infantry Regiment, 36th Division, of the Texas National Guard. Just before he was shipped overseas, he and Miss Em married and honeymooned on Cape Cod. During the Rapido River Battle in Italy, Billy sustained gunshot wounds to his right shoulder and arm on January 21, 1944. Following his discharge

from military service 2 years later, the former staff sergeant and his young bride returned to Dallas to begin a new life.

Billy then joined the Disabled American Veterans [DAV] as a life member of Chapter 32 in Dallas and dedicated his life to his fellow veterans. Shortly thereafter, Billy entered American University in Washington, DC, to study in the DAV National Service Officer [NSO] training program. He worked as a DAV NSO in Dallas and Waco until 1962 when he joined the staff on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. In Washington, Billy worked with such giants in the world of veteran's affairs as long-time committee chairman Olin E. Tiger Teague and former committee staff director Oliver E. Meadows.

Following his retirement from the Hill in 1977, Billy and Miss Em became extremely active in the DAV on the local and national level. His immense contributions to the DAV were fully recognized when, after having served 2 years as an elected vice commander, Billy was elected national commander of the million-member DAV in 1988–89.

Billy and Miss Em's civic involvement has also been extensive. In 1986, Billy was appointed to serve on the Texas Veterans' Commission and has held leadership positions in several veterans, civic and political organizations in Bosque County. He and Miss Em have also been extremely active members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Clifton and have devoted considerable time and effort to improve medical care in the Clifton area.

But I'm sure Billy and Miss Em would agree that their greatest accomplishment has been raising two wonderful children, Larry and Phyllis, and keeping an ever watchful eye on their four beautiful grandchildren.

From a personal standpoint, I proudly consider Billy Kirby a mentor and trusted advisor. As a couple, I consider Billy and Miss Em to be among my dearest friends. I can also say unequivocally that no one in the 11th District of Texas, which has one of our Nation's largest concentrations of veterans and veterans' facilities, has done more to assist veterans than Billy Kirby. In short, Mr. Speaker, Billy Kirby is truly a veteran's veteran and a man that I respect above all others. He is one of those rare persons whose life has been totally devoted to helping others without any interest in personal recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me now in congratulating Billy and Emelyn Kirby on their 50th wedding anniversary. Very few people are able to experience the kind of love and commitment that Billy and Miss Em have shared for these many years. Their dedication to each other, to their family, to their community, and to America's veterans is truly extraordinary. It is my sincere hope that they will share many more years of happiness together.

NATIONAL FFA WEEK

HON. WILLIAM H. NATCHER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. NATCHER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with the members of the National FFA Organization as they celebrate National FFA Week this week. Through the FFA, students enrolled in agricultural classes in public high schools and vocational centers not only provide community services and increase their knowledge of agriculture, but also gain valuable leadership skills. For this reason, FFA—The Spirit of Leadership is an appropriate theme for this year's National FFA Week.

In my home State of Kentucky, over 1,000 FFA members and teachers attended 1 week of leadership training at the Kentucky FFA Leadership Training Center in order to better guide their local FFA chapters. The dedication and ability of these people can be seen in the results of regional, State, and national competitions.

From the Second Congressional District of Kentucky, the district I represent, winners at the State FFA convention last June were: Frank Nolan, Jr., of Spencer County in agricultural electrification, Jeremy Hinton of LaRue County in forage crop production, William C. Dobson of Adair County in nursery operations, Eric Butler of Adair County in outdoor recreation, Scotty Clan of Hardin County in placement of agricultural production, Kevin Thomas of Hardin County in sheep production, Bobby Wooldridge of Spencer County in soil and water management, Joey Shine of Metcalfe County in specialty crop productions, the Spencer County FFA Chapter for the Building Our Communities Program, Ginilin Barlow of Barren County in the AIC contest—first place, David Tucker of Taylor County in the AIC contest—second place, Jason Ferguson of Hardin County in the AIC contest—third place, the Central Hardin Chapter in chapter meeting, Melodie Stull of Breckinridge County in impromptu speaking beef, the Breckinridge County Chapter in farm business management, the Warren East Chapter in the record keeping contest, the Central Hardin Chapter in FFA commodity marketing, and Jeff Wathen of Marion County in creed speaking.

I am also proud to have regional Star State FFA members in production and Star State Agribusinessmen from the district I represent. Gayle Aubrey of Breckinridge County, Angie Montgomery of Spencer County, and Kirby Hancock of Adair County were all recognized as regional Star State FFA members in production at the State FFA convention. Andrew D. Koostra of Warren County was recognized as the Star State Agribusinessman and Kevin Whitworth of Breckinridge County and Paul Smothers of Taylor County were both recognized as regional Start State Argribusinessman.

Several chapters from the Second Congressional District of Kentucky were recognized for chapter safety. The Spencer County Chapter won second place in the State and the Daviess County, Barren County, Edmonson County, Metcalfe County, Breckinridge County, Central Hardin, Bullitt Central, Spencer County, and Taylor County chapters were all recognized as regional superior chapters.

Students are not the only ones recognized for hard work and leadership through the National FFA Organization. This past year, two teachers from the State of Kentucky received the Honorary American FFA Degree at the national FFA Convention in Kansas City, MO. One of these individuals, Lloyd Horne, is an agriculture teacher at Central Hardin High School in Kentucky's Second Congressional District.

All down through the years, the National FFA Organization has helped young people achieve their goals in the field of agriculture and at this time, I would like to commend all of those associated with the FFA throughout Kentucky and across the Nation for their many accomplishments. I wish them continued success in the future.

THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SALT RIVER PROJECT

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Salt River project, an institution that this month celebrates its 90th anniversary as the Nation's oldest multipurpose reclamation project.

The company, headquartered in Tempe, AZ, is the State's largest water supplier and the third largest public power utility in the Nation. It serves more than 550,000 customers in the greater metropolitan Phoenix area, operates six major dams and reservoirs, and has transmission links throughout the Southwest. It owns and participates in coal mines and generating stations in Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, and Colorado. And, it counts among its customers some of the Nation's foremost computer and electronic manufacturers, aviation industries, mines, and agricultural enterprises. From an Arizona vantage, from Washington, DC, to the bond markets of New York, the name of Salt River project [SRP] has set a standard for high value, low-cost water and power, and for financial reliability and stability.

At the core of SRP's reputation is a corporate history that is tied deeply to the history and development of Arizona. Born out of a drought that parched the West in the late 19th century, SRP was formed in 1903—9 years before Arizona became a State. The company's original purpose was to provide early settlers with a reliable source of water for farming. To accomplish this, SRP's founders mortgaged their lands to the Federal Government as loan collateral for the construction of Theodore Roosevelt Dam—one of the first, great projects of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. When the dam was completed in 1911 in the Salt River Canyon east of Phoenix, it stood as one of the engineering triumphs of its time. Dependable water supplies were achieved. Agriculture flourished. As the Phoenix area prospered, construction of five other dams followed. Hydroelectric capabilities were developed and, in 1937, special action by the State legislature formally put SRP into the power business. The rapid growth of the Phoenix area after World War II and its transformation into the commercial hub of the Southwest came about in part through SRP's progressive efforts, economic development programs, and commitment to community partnerships.

Today, SRP and Arizona stand together at the threshold of a new era and at the cross-

roads of a global market connecting to Latin America and the Pacific rim. With advanced programs in energy conservation, electric vehicles, alternative fuels, and environmentally affordable ways to supply water and power, SRP is ready to help its customers assume even stronger economic leadership in the 21st century. SRP's vision has helped shape the West for 90 years. Its vision clearly will continue to shape Arizona's future.

A TRIBUTE TO DUKE AND EVELYN HILL

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the fine work and inspired leadership of Edward Gould Hill, Jr. ("Duke") and Evelyn Hill who have taken leadership roles in fostering music for the cultural benefit of California's Inland Empire. The Hill's will be recognized for their long-time commitment to the Inland Empire Symphony later this week as they are presented with the 1993 Golden Baton Award in San Bernardino, CA.

The Inland Empire Symphony Orchestra is a 31-year-old organization which offers a diverse musical program each year. The 72-member orchestra, which serves 6 performing arts groups, also has a strong student music appreciation program which brings members of the orchestra to local schools.

Duke's father was concert pianist and music teacher in the Chicago area, and his mother operated Hill's Music and Book Store before the family moved to California some years later. Evelyn is a fifth generation San Bernardino resident, a descendant of Jerusha Gurnsey Bemis who settled in San Bernardino with the Mormon train in 1854. Duke and Evelyn met at San Bernardino Valley College and were married in 1951. Since that time, they have been blessed with three children, Edward, Claudia, and Alison.

In 1970, Duke became the sole proprietor of his real estate appraisal, public acquisition, and private investment business. In addition, he has taught real estate courses at San Bernardino Valley College and the University of California at Riverside. He is also a member of the Inland Empire Symphony Executive Board. Evelyn has served as president and a 19-year board member of the Assistance League of San Bernardino and president of the San Bernardino National Charity League. In addition, she was the founding president of the Inland Empire Symphony Guild, has served as the public relations chairman of the Inland Empire Symphony Orchestra for 4 years, and has served as a docent for the "Music in the Schools" Program since its inception. She has also served on the benefit committee and chaired or cochaired numerous event since first becoming involved with the Inland Empire Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues and friends in honoring Duke and Evelyn for all they have done to revitalize the Inland Empire Symphony which has become a solid part of San Bernardino's cultural heritage. Their dedicated and selfless service to our community is certainly worthy of recognition by the House today.

IN HONOR OF YOLANDA RUIZ ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to Yolanda O. Ruiz, who is retiring after 20 years of devoted service to the county of Los Angeles. The southern California congressional delegation also joins me in saluting Ms. Ruiz who has effectively served as the county of Los Angeles' legislative liaison in Washington, DC.

Over the years, Yolanda has represented the views and concerns of the county of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. She has clearly earned the respect and admiration of those of us in Congress who have had the pleasure of working with her.

Ms. Ruiz is a versatile, competent, and well-respected individual who overcame enormous social odds. She was born in El Paso, TX, and grew up in the barrios of east Los Angeles, with three brothers and three sisters. Her mother was a seamstress in a sweat shop in the garment industry in Los Angeles and her father barely earned minimum wages as a laborer on the railroad.

Yolanda held numerous jobs to pay for her college education. She married Carlos Ruiz and together they raised seven sons—Daniel, Donald, Carols, Richard, Anthony, Michael, and Nicholas. In 1971, Ms. Ruiz began an illustrious career with the county of Los Angeles when she, her husband, and their children moved to Washington, DC.

In addition to working for the county and raising her family, Yolanda has been actively involved in the PTA, Little League, the Red Cross, her homeowners association, voter registration drives, community assistance for Spanish-speaking persons, and a variety of civic and social organizations. Most of us are familiar with Yolanda's unfailing support of the California State Society as a past president, vice president, and presently, the society's treasurer. In an age when our young men and women are desperately seeking role models to help guide and direct their lives, individuals like Yolanda Ruiz stand out as a living testimony that hard work and dedicated service reaps a positive goal.

Mr. Speaker, we will miss Yolanda as she retires from the county of Los Angeles. However, we are pleased that we had the pleasure of knowing and working with such a gracious, dedicated individual. She has completed a remarkable career in public service. My colleagues and I wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

NASHVILLE-BASED NORTHERN TELECOM RECEIVES IRS AWARD

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to pay tribute to a fine corporate constituent which has helped to dispel the perception of a traditional adversarial relationship between business and government.

Northern Telecom, Inc., which is based in Nashville, TN, recently received the Nation's first Joint IRS Taxpayer Quality Improvement Initiative Award for extraordinary commitment toward improving tax administration. In presenting the award to Martin Mand, executive vice president and chief financial officer for the company, IRS district director Glenn Cagle said,

> The Northern Telecom-IRS team represents the first time in the Nation, or possibly anywhere, that representatives from a company under audit have worked side by side with the examiners to improve key aspects of the audit process.

He added that the nationwide application of what the IRS and Northern Telecom achieved in Nashville can save untold hours and tax dollars in similar examinations.

The award recognizes the fruits of a year-long project that has led to substantial improvements in communications and information flow between the two organizations and is part of the IRS' quality improvement process [QIP], a formal program begun in 1987 to improve internal systems. New operations implemented as a result of the alliance have led to a 59-percent reduction in the average processing time for tax information requests at Northern Telecom. Other benefits include a more current examination procedure, reduced auditing burden, and the establishment of a foundation for further joint quality initiatives.

The project focused primarily on factors hindering information delivery, such as resource management, quantity of information requested, and the clarity of requests. The partnership has been so successful that the IRS Nashville district intends to use the project's process as a model for other districts.

Northern Telecom is a leading supplier of digital switching systems to the U.S. telephone industry, digital communications systems to the U.S. military, and is a major exporter of telecommunications equipment. It is the leading global supplier of fully digital telecommunications systems, with over 58,000 employees worldwide and annual revenues of $8.4 billion. In the United States, there are over 22,000 employees, including about 800 at NTI's Nashville headquarters, involved in design, manufacturing, and sale of telecommunications products.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all of the employees and executives at Northern Telecom on their receipt of this award.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SALT RIVER PROJECT

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, one of the more inspired city names in this great country is that of Phoenix, AZ. The phoenix, a bird of ancient Egyptian mythology, is said to have burned itself to ashes on a pyre, only to rise from those ashes to live again. Like the legendary bird, its urban namesake came to prosper only after death and resurrection. A principal agent of the city's rebirth was the Salt River project, the Nation's oldest multipurpose reclamation project. I rise to pay tribute to SRP, which proudly celebrates its 90th anniversary this month.

The site of present-day Phoenix was first inhabited by the Hohokam Indians, who disappeared from the Salt River Valley in central Arizona during the late 15th century. They left behind many artifacts to remind us of their presence but few clues to explain their sudden disappearance. One theory holds that the Hohokam, an agrarian society, was victimized by the uncontrollable drought-flood cycles that characterize many desert communities.

It was not until the late 19th century that hearty pioneers attempted to resettle the desert reaches of the Salt River Valley. Recognizing that effective settlement would be impossible without a reliable supply of water, a group of far-sighted and courageous individuals began planning a system of dams and canals to bring water—and life—to the Valley of the Sun. Such a system would be capable of distributing water in times of drought and conserving it in times of plenty.

Under the terms of the Reclamation Act of 1902, the Salt River Valley Water Users Association was incorporated on February 9, 1903. Guided by the spirit of risk which led them to Arizona in the first place, the incorporators pledged their lands as collateral for the construction of a Federal dam and water delivery system to store and distribute waters of the temperamental Salt River. Roosevelt Dam, which upon its completion in 1911, was the highest masonry dam in the world, was built at a cost of 30 lives and $10.3 million. When President Teddy Roosevelt traveled west to dedicate the dam that was to bear his name, the dream of reclamation was becoming a reality for the intrepid pioneers of the Salt River Valley.

From its modest beginnings, the Salt River project—which now includes the Salt River Valley Water Users Association and the Salt River Agricultural and Improvement District—has matured into an extensive and multifaceted enterprise. As the third-largest public power company in the Nation, and the largest water supplier in the State of Arizona, SRP currently serves more than 560,000 business and residential customers in central Arizona. It has established itself as the low-cost provider of quality water and power services in the Salt River Valley and has been a national leader in the development of energy efficiency and water conservation technologies.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute the men and women of the Salt River project on the occasion of the project's 90th anniversary. I wish them every continued success as they continue to chart the course for a bright and promising future in the Valley of the Sun.

THE CLOSE-UP FOUNDATION'S HONORING OF BILL GRETZINGER AND MIKE MCCAULEY

HON. WILLIAM D. FORD

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 1993

Mr. FORD of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend two dedicated teachers, Bill Gretzinger who teaches at Plymouth Salem High School in Salem, MI and Mike McCauley, who teaches at Plymouth-Canton High School in Canton, MI. They have both won the Close-Up Foundation's Linda Myers Chosen Award for Teaching Excellence in Civic Education.

The Close-Up Foundation provides students across the Nation the opportunity to learn about their Government first hand. Close-Up brings civics students to Washington to learn about Government, to meet with Government officials, and with Members of Congress and our staffs. I, along with many of my colleagues, have met with students on the Close-Up program. We have helped teach students about the Congress and the Federal Government; the students have helped us learn the concerns of the young people in our districts. To the new Members of Congress, I highly recommend active participation with the Close-Up Foundation.

The Close-Up Foundation chose Mr. Gretzinger and Mr. McCauley because they demonstrated outstanding leadership, innovation, and commitment to the Close-Up Foundation's citizenship education mission. Teaching citizens, young and old, about their Government and about their civic rights and responsibilities is a valuable mission.

Both teachers have worked hard to accomplish this mission. Their two schools are the two largest participants in the Close-Up program. Besides bringing over 1,500 students to Washington through the Close-Up Foundation, they have worked on the Classroom on Wheels, a program to teach students about city, county, and State government. By teaching active participation in their governments and getting students involved in the political process, they have taught students how to work to better their own future.

Students learn in many different ways. Textbooks and lectures are only two ways. Mr. Gretzinger and Mr. McCauley worked hard to expand their students' learning experience both in and outside of the classroom. They have given their students an unrivaled learning experience. Their students have learned through experience the workings of democracy.

Mr. Gretzinger and Mr. McCauley know that one learns best by doing. Thus, they inspired their students to actively participate in their own community. Students have started voter registration drives, assisted senior citizens, and have helped clean up the Rouge River.

I have worked with both teachers in Washington and in Michigan. I know of no higher praise than to say that their students are better off for having had them as teachers and that their communities are better off for having them teach there.

I have long been proud of Michigan's education community. Mr. Gretzinger's and Mr. McCauley's inspirational work for their students reminds me why.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 23, 1993, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 24

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on S. 4, to promote the industrial competitiveness and economic growth of the U.S. by strengthening and expanding the civilian technology programs of the Department of Commerce.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings on energy tax options.

SH-216

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine proliferation threats of the 1990's.

SD-342

Special on Aging

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Government's role in the research and development of new pharmaceutical products in the U.S., focusing on AIDS and cancer drug treatments.

SD-G50

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the Legislative Branch, focusing on the Capitol Police Board and the Architect of the Capitol.

SD-116

Appropriations

Treasury, Postal Service, General Government Subcommittee

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

partment of State, Department of Defense, U.S. Customs Service, General Accounting Office, Drug Enforcement Administration, and the U.S. Border Patrol.

SD–192

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine mortgage and other lending discrimination.

SD–562

Budget

To resume hearings to examine the President's economic plan.

SD–608

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings to examine American education standards and goals for the future.

SD–430

2:00 p.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings on the status of United States Government assistance to the former Soviet Union.

SR–222

FEBRUARY 25

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on S. 338, to revise the Petroleum Marketing Practices Act to clarify the Federal standards governing the termination and nonrenewal of franchises and franchise relationships for the sale of motor fuel.

SD–366

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Blinded Veterans of America, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Jewish War Veterans, and the Retired Officers Association.

345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the Legislative Branch, focusing on the Library of Congress and the Government Printing Office.

SD–116

Finance

To hold hearings on U.S. trade policy issues.

Room to be announced

Governmental Affairs

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD–342

Small Business

To hold oversight hearings on the Small Business Administration's microloan demonstration program.

SR–428A

Joint Organization of Congress

To resume hearings to examine congressional reform proposals, focusing on procedures for enforcing ethical standards.

S–5, Capitol

2:00 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands, National Parks and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 206, to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and S. 341, to provide for a land exchange between the Secretary of Agriculture and Eagle and Pitkin Counties in Colorado.

SD–366

FEBRUARY 26

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the Legislative Branch, focusing on the Joint Committee on Printing and the General Accounting Office.

SD–116

MARCH 2

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 185, to restore to Federal civilian employees their right to participate voluntarily, as private citizens, in the political processes of the nation, to protect such employees from improper political solicitations.

SD–342

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the Judiciary.

S–146, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine issues and solutions for reforming foreign aid.

SD–192

MARCH 3

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD–366

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings on S. 3, S. 7, S. 62, S. 87, and S. 94, Congressional election campaign finance reform proposals.

SR–301

MARCH 4

9:30 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To continue hearings on S. 3, S. 7, S. 62, S. 87, and S. 94, Congressional election campaign finance reform proposals.

SR–301

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1994 for the Federal Railroad Administration, and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK), focusing on high-speed rail.

SD–192

MARCH 5

10:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the present and future role of veterans' health care system.

SR–418

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

MARCH 11

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

MARCH 16

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

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

SD–138

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

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

MARCH 23

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

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

SD–192

MARCH 24

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

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

SD–116

MARCH 30

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 Amer-

ica, the American Ex-Prisoners of War, and the Non-Commissioned Officers Association.

345 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 Office of Motor Carriers (FHWA), the Office of Research and Special Programs, and the Office of Inspector General, focusing on truck safety and hazardous materials.

SD–192

APRIL 27

2:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Foreign Operations Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine foreign aid transnational issues, focusing on population, environment, health, and narcotics.

SD–138

MAY 4

2:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Foreign Operations Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine foreign assistance and U.S. international economic 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 Federal 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 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