

by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the subcommittee staff at (202) 224-5161.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, will hold hearings regarding Russian organized crime in the United States.

This hearing will take place on Wednesday, May 15, 1996, in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Harold Damelin or Daniel S. Gelber of the subcommittee staff at 224-3721.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be permitted to meet Wednesday, May 8, 1996, beginning at 10 a.m. in room SH-215, to conduct a markup on international trade bills.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 1996, at 10:30 a.m. to hold a hearing.

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

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 1996, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 1996, beginning at 9:30 a.m. until business is completed, to hold a hearing on campaign finance reform.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs would like to request unanimous consent to hold a hearing on veterans' health care eligibility priorities. The hearing will be held on May 8, 1996, at 10 a.m., in

room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 1996, at 2:45 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE WHITewater DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND RELATED MATTERS

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee to Investigate Whitewater Development Corporation and Related Matters be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, and Thursday, May 9, 1996, to conduct hearings pursuant to Senate Resolution 120.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON YOUTH VIOLENCE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Youth Violence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 8, 1996, at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing on "Youth Violence: Oversight of Federal Programs."

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RON BROWN'S SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I wish to reflect briefly on the loss of life and tremendous talent our Nation suffered when, only days before Easter Sunday, 33 Americans—leaders in business and Government—perished in a storm off the coast of Croatia.

Each of these individuals was strongly committed to the idea that economic renewal is critical to achieving peace in that desperately war-torn land. Compassion for others in need drew all of them on their mission to the Balkans in an effort to help heal that desperate corner of the globe.

I particularly want to remember U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown. Charismatic and energetic, he inevitably devoted himself to the task at hand with all his heart and mind. His enthusiasm for public service was only equaled by an amazing ability to attain his goals. He lived the American success story by proving that everyone, through hard work and determination can achieve their heart's desire.

Ron Brown's immense personal popularity made his untimely death all the more sorrowful.

Born in Washington, DC, but raised in New York's Harlem, Secretary

Brown attended Middlebury College in Vermont where he was the only black student in his class. After graduation he joined the U.S. Army and, serving as an officer, proudly represented his country abroad.

Following his military career he worked as a welfare caseworker in New York City while attending law school at night. An individual of enormous charm and wit, Ron Brown became the first African-American leader of a major political party in the United States. Regarding this historical achievement he stated, "I did not run on the basis of race, but I will not run away from it. I am proud of who I am."

President Clinton named Ron Brown to serve as U.S. Secretary of Commerce, the first African-American to occupy that post. He performed its duties with wisdom, dedication, and conscientious attention to detail. Secretary Brown more than anyone else in Government, gave business a seat at the diplomatic table. Because of his friendship with and access to the President, the State Department was on constant notice that if our economic efforts overseas were not represented, Ron Brown stood ready to serve as their advocate.

Representing the United States around the world, he was America's premier salesman for what we have to offer—equality, opportunity, and abundance.

This April, bravely undertaking a mission into what had recently been a war zone and still was a potentially hostile region, Ron Brown proved to the world what those who knew him always took for granted: that he cared less for his personal safety than for the good of the people who live there.

In his own wonderful way, Ron Brown served as a peacekeeper. Working to establish international trade and business in the region, he offered its people the opportunity to rebuild a civil society.

Yes, the United States lost 33 lives, 33 talented individuals, each with an unlimited potential to achieve.

But we as a nation have also gained 33 luminous examples of ultimate dedication and compassion. These bright stars of self-sacrifice form an American constellation which can, if we let it, guide us forward with generosity and courage toward a better tomorrow for ourselves and all of our neighbors.●

ROBERT BELOUS

• Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of Robert Belous who, since January 1991, has served as the superintendent of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in Louisiana. Bob is retiring from the Park Service after more than 25 years of service and we in Louisiana will miss him very much.

Bob Belous has been an outstanding park superintendent and public servant. He has enthusiastically embraced a number of innovative and creative