

Born more than a century ago, Bob embodies what it means to be part of the "Greatest Generation." When the forces of fascism and tyranny threatened the peace, security, and freedom of millions, Bob answered the call to serve our Nation as a soldier in the United States Army. During one of the most crucial periods of fighting on the Western Front in the Second World War, Bob led his Army platoon during the Battle of Hürtgen Forest. A Second Lieutenant at the time, Bob earned the Silver Star after being shot in the arm. The Silver Star is one of the most prestigious medals of honor our Nation can bestow on a servicemember, and it appropriately recognizes Bob's valor in combat and his gallantry in action against the enemy. Bob's Silver Star, along with his Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge, World War II Victory Medal, and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, are all physical proof and outward symbols of Bob's inner fortitude, leadership abilities, and his unwavering commitment to duty and service.

President Ronald Reagan reminded us that freedom is fragile and must constantly be fought for and vigilantly guarded by each generation. That noble mission is exactly what Bob helped carry out when he wore the uniform of the United States Military. Because of the service and sacrifice of warriors like Bob, generations of Americans have been able to experience the blessings of liberty and live in a land that is free. For that, all of us owe Bob and his fellow veterans a debt we can never fully repay.

Bob's dedication to service did not stop when he returned home to Indiana after battle. Bob has been very active in a number of community organizations throughout Kosciusko County, and the Warsaw City Council, the Rotary Club, Salvation Army, Warsaw Evangelical Community Church, and Mobile Meals program have all benefited greatly from Bob's involvement. Simply put, Bob epitomizes what it means to put "Service Above Self."

Despite all these impressive accolades and countless testimonials from those he has helped over the years, perhaps Bob's best legacy are his and his wife Marge's seven children, and their more than two dozen grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

After more than a century of life well lived, I join countless Hoosiers in celebrating Bob Gast and in thanking him for his loyal service and the many, many contributions he has made to the Kosciusko County community, Indiana's Second Congressional District, and our country. May God bless Bob Gast.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2024

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, due to personal illness, I was unable to vote from December 3 through 6, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 484; YEA on Roll Call No. 485; YEA on Roll Call No. 486; NAY on Roll Call No. 487; and NAY on Roll Call No. 488.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LIZZIE FLETCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2024

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes on December 5, 2024, due to being sick. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 484; YEA on Roll Call No. 485; YEA on Roll Call No. 486; YEA on Roll Call No. 487; and YEA on Roll Call No. 488.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of 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, December 10, 2024 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 11

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Caroline A. Crenshaw, of the

District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Gordon I. Ito, of Hawaii, to be a Member of the Financial Stability Oversight Council; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine consumer protection, focusing on protecting workers' money and fighting for the dignity of work.

SD-538

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Communications, Media, and Broadband

To hold hearings to examine communications networks safety and security.

SR-253

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

2:45 p.m.

Committee on Rules and Administration

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the United States Capitol Police.

SR-301

DECEMBER 12

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider the nominations of David Michael Capozzi, of Maryland, Ronald L. Batory, of New Mexico, Elaine Marie Clegg, of Idaho, and Lanhee J. Chen, of California, each to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, Lisa T. Ballance, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Marine Mammal Commission, Felix R. Sanchez, of the District of Columbia, and Adam Jeffrey White, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, L. E. Sola, of Florida, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, and routine lists in the Coast Guard; to be immediately followed by a Subcommittee on Aviation Safety, Operations, and Innovation hearing to examine U.S. Air Traffic Control systems, personnel, and safety.

SR-253

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1306, to reauthorize the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, S. 2082, to make technical corrections relating to the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act, and the nominations of Benjamin J. Cheeks, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and Serena Raquel Murillo, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

SD-G50

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine empowering people with disabilities to live, work, learn, and thrive.

SD-106