

history of whaling deserves a place among the major historical themes represented in the National Park System. The federal designation will also mean a significant boost to the economy of the region as more and more visitors come to New Bedford to learn about its extraordinary history."

The bill authorizes an estimated \$4 million over the next five years in federal funds for the Park, with a ceiling of \$2 million on the amount of federal funds that can be used for construction and rehabilitation.

In addition, in an innovative feature of the bill that may become a model for future park funding in the era of limited federal resources, the bill requires a 1-to-1 private-sector match for construction and rehabilitation funds, and a 4-to-1 private-sector match for other projects related to the Park. The goals of the Park can be achieved with modest federal funding, because substantial local resources have already been dedicated in New Bedford, and the community has a strong commitment to maintain these efforts in years to come.

Passage of this bill will make the New Bedford National Historical Park one of only a handful of new national parks to be approved by the Senate in the current Congress. In this era of limited federal resources, Congress is rightly skeptical of new park proposals, but the designation of New Bedford is highly appropriate.

New Bedford won early renown for its whaling expeditions in the Atlantic, and later became a key base for whaling voyages to the Arctic. The whaling industry became so prosperous that by the mid-1800s, New Bedford was the wealthiest city, per capita, in the world.

The Whaling National Historical Park will preserve and restore dozens of New Bedford's historic buildings, which are being restored to appear as they did in the whaling industry's heyday.

The Park will include the Seamen's Bethel—the church in "Moby Dick" where Ishmael heard Father Mapple offer prayers for sailors before setting out to sea. It will also encompass the restored, century-old National Historic Landmark vessel "Ernestina," the oldest Grand Banks schooner in existence, which is now moored in New Bedford's port.

The crown jewel of the Park will be the Whaling Museum, which houses the world's premier whaling archives and art collection. The library contains thousands of ship logs, charts, maps, photos and other records that document the history of whaling in America. The museum also houses a half-size model of the whaling bark "Lagoda," which can be boarded by visitors.

60,000 visitors from the United States and over 40 foreign countries come to the museum each year and participate in its programs. It also receives thousands of requests for information from historians, scientists, educators, photographers, and museum professionals.

The Whaling National Historical Park has been endorsed by numerous national organizations, including the American Institute of Architects, the American Museum Association, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Melville Society, the New England Council, and the Portuguese American Leadership Council of the United States.

We have worked closely on this bill with Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chairman Frank Murkowski, and Senate Parks Subcommittee Chairman Ben Nighthorse Campbell, and we commend them for their assistance and support.

We also commend the tireless dedication of the business community and citizens of New

Bedford and their deep commitment to make this Park a reality. We have also worked very closely with Congressmen Barney Frank and Peter Blute of Massachusetts. Their effective work in the House of Representatives laid the best possible groundwork for today's successful Senate action.

IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1996

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that any votes ordered with respect to S. 1664 occur beginning at 2:40 p.m. today, with the first vote being 15 minutes in length and any stacked votes in sequence be limited to 10 minutes, with 2 minutes for debate, to be equally divided, between each vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GORTON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I further ask that any votes remaining to be disposed of at 3:45 p.m. today be further postponed, to begin at 5:30 p.m. in the order in which they were debated and under the same time restraints as mentioned above.

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

Mr. SIMPSON. I thank my colleagues. That will enable us to have final passage of this bill soon after the last amendment is presented. The gap there is because the Senators Chafee-Breaux bipartisan budget group will be at the White House. We thank them for that accommodation.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

AMENDMENTS NOS. 3853 AND 3854, EN BLOC

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Simpson amendment, earlier presented today, be the order of business.

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

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I have cleared these amendments with our side of the aisle. Senator KENNEDY has cleared them with his side of the aisle. I urge adoption of the amendments, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendments are agreed to, en bloc.

The amendments (No. 3853 and 3854) were agreed to, en bloc.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote and to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak as in morning business.

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

TRIBUTE TO S. SGT. RUBEN RIVERS

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, if you happened to have read the current edition of U.S. News & World Report, there is a front page story about some very heroic people. One of those persons is from Oklahoma.

Many years ago, back in 1944, when we were trying to push the Germans out of France and the Alsace-Lorraine area, it was the 761st Tank Battalion that was sent over to try to remove, to extract the Germans from that area.

There is one thing that was unique about the 761st Tank Battalion. All of the soldiers in that battalion were black. They called them the "Black Panthers."

One of the bright young soldiers was a staff sergeant by the name of Ruben Rivers. Ruben Rivers was born in Tecumseh, OK, a very quiet, soft-spoken person, the kind who everybody liked. When he went into the service, his desire was to see combat. Back then, even though we had 1.2 million blacks serving in World War II, less than half of them saw combat, and not one of them got the Congressional Medal of Honor, in spite of the fact that they had performed all kind of heroic acts.

Back in 1990, I was serving over in the House, and it was called to my attention by some surviving members of his family some of the things that he had done. When I heard this story, I called his commander, whose name is Capt. David Williams, retired, who was getting quite elderly, and I asked him to verify the story. This is what Ruben Rivers had done.

He was a tank driver. He had won a Silver Star by walking through a minefield and putting a chain on fallen chains and backing out with this tank to detonate all of the mines, taking great personal risk in doing this.

A few weeks later—it was November 14, 1944—Ruben Rivers was driving the lead tank, as he always wanted to do. He went through a minefield in order to detonate the mines so that the 761st Tank Battalion Group A could get through.

When he did this, he went over several mines. One mine went off, and it blew up the undercarriage of his tank and severely wounded Ruben Rivers. In fact, the bone in his right leg was penetrated all the way through. You could see the shiny white bone.