Today we applaud Truman's controversial decision to integrate the Armed Forces. In the face of opposition from military leaders and much of the American public, Truman had the courage to reject their arguments and do what he thought was right.

The state of the world prompted Truman to move away from America's established pattern of peacetime isolationism in order to assist European economic recovery through the Marshall Pan and to protect Western Europe under the umbrella of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Truman also had the courage to stand up to the communist aggression that marked the beginning of the Cold War. The Truman Doctrine made clear that the United States would not stand idly by in the face of communist aggression in Greece, Turkey, and elsewhere. Truman's commitment to the democratic rights of free people was clear as the U.S. provided essential supplies to the people of Berlin during the Soviet blockade and when Truman made the agonizing decision to use American troops to lead the United Nation's resistance to the communist invasion of South Korea. These actions earned the praise of British Prime Minister Winston Churchill who said to Truman, ''You, more than any other man, have saved Western civilization.''

HARRY TRUMAN WAS TRUE TO HIS PERSONAL BELIEFS AND VALUES

Truman learned about hard work and the value of a job well-done while growing up as a Missouri farm boy. His mother claimed that he plowed the straightest furrow of anyone in the community.

His handshake was firm, reflecting his farming background. His posture ever remained that of a soldier, and his early morning, fast-paced walks—in Washington and later in Independence—were legendary.

His honesty and personal integrity were never questioned. Though not a great orator, his speeches and conversations were direct and to the point.

He was a kind and compassionate man. At a campaign whistlestop in 1952, I saw him purposefully step down from the train to greet a severely disabled man who had struggled to the front of the crowd to catch a glimpse of President Truman.

His loyalty to his friends was enduring. While Vice President, he attended the funeral of Tom Pendergast, the disgraced Kansas City machine politician who had supported Truman early in his career. Truman, refusing to allow outside critics to weaken the bonds of his personal ties, attended the funeral and showed that he was a loyal friend to the end.

He was positive in nature and optimistic about the future.

Truman never forgot his Missouri roots, and reflected poet Rudyard Kipling's description of the man who could ''. . . walk with kings'' without losing ''the common touch.''

He was a man of determination. Prior to the 1948 Presidential election, pundits and pollsters had written off Harry Truman. Just before the election, I asked my father if President Truman had a chance to win. My Dad replied, ''Ike, don't count Harry Truman out.'' Truman didn't let others convince him that his race for a term in his own right would fail. Instead, he took his message directly to the American people during his trademark whistlestop campaign tour. Then, as now, America loved a man with guts, and Truman's persistence was rewarded with a tremendous victory on election day.

Election night reports indicated a solid vote for Truman, but well-known radio commentator H.V. Kaltenborne repeatedly predicted, in his then familiar shrill voice, that Harry Truman would be defeated by Thomas Dewey. Fortunately, Truman had a keen sense of humor. His wry wit was on display during 1949's inaugural events. While in Washington for the inauguration, I attended the Electoral Dinner. Although at the time my attention was a bit distracted by the beauty of Hollywood actress Joan Bondell, who was sitting at a table a few feet away from me, I will never forget President Truman's mocking impersonation of H.V. Kaltenborne, which brought down the house with laughter.

CHARGE TO THE SAILORS

My mere words today cannot do justice to President Harry S. Truman. But you sailors—you Truman sailors—who will serve aboard this ship named for him can do justice to his memory.

You can do your duty as if Harry Truman were looking over your shoulder. You can reflect all that was good and decent about him: take responsibility for your actions; be honest and direct in your dealings with others; humble in your demeanor; straight in your posture and brisk in your walk; thoughtful and considerate of others; loyal to your friends; devoted to your family; determined in your endeavors; know the history of our country; appreciate humor; proud of the uniform you wear; and love America.

From the earliest times, all sailors at sea have felt a sense of loneliness. On such occasions, I urge you to reflect on the loneliness of Harry Truman when he made momentous decisions while doing his duty for our country. During your lonely times, may the spirit of Harry Truman be an inspiration to you.

Keep in mind one more thought. President Truman liked to tell the story about the grave marker in Tombstone, Arizona, that read, ''Here lies Jack Williams. He done his damndest.'' Missouri's President always strived to do just that—to do his damndest—that is, to do his best. So I charge you, Truman sailors, to heed the wisdom of that epitaph by doing your damndest. By doing so, your dedication will ensure that American freedom continues to shine like a polestar in the heavens.

It is now my pleasure to introduce the man who put his shoulder to the wheel by appointing and leading the Commissioning Committee—Missourians all—to the highly successful conclusion that we are witnessing on this occasion. I am proud to call him my friend. He is Trumanesque in his character and is a truly dedicated public servant—The Governor of our State of Missouri, the Honorable Mel Carnahan. At the conclusion of his remarks, he will pass the traditional long glass.

God bless.

THE EPA, TOBACCO AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I call to my colleagues' attention this incisive and well-written column by George Will that in many ways captures the essence of what is going on at the EPA and throughout the environmental community. I would particularly direct my colleagues to the final paragraph in Mr. Will's column in which he quotes from an article by Dennis Prager in the Weekly Standard about ''this assault on the idea of personal responsibility.''

[From the Washington Post, July 30, 1998]

EPA'S CRUSADERS

(By George F. Will)

Before the tobacco bill was blown to rags and atoms by its supporters' overreaching, they substituted reiteration for reasoning. But then, for years now the debate about smoking has been distorted by vehement people who rarely suffer even temporary lapses into logic.

A new reason for skepticism about the evidence and motives of the anti-tobacco crusaders comes in a ruling by a federal judge in North Carolina concerning a 1993 report by the Environmental Protection Agency. EPA said secondhand smoke is a Class A carcinogen that causes 3,000 lung cancer deaths per year. The judge said:

''EPA publicly committed to a conclusion before research had begun; excluded industry by violating the [1986 Radon Gas and Indoor Air Quality Research] Act's procedural requirements; adjusted established procedure and scientific norms to validate the Agency's public conclusion; and aggressively utilized the Act's authority to disseminate findings to establish a de facto regulatory scheme intended to restrict Plaintiffs' products and to influence public opinion.''

The judge charges EPA not just with bad science but with bad faith—with having ''cherry picked its data.'' Granted, this is just one judge's opinion; EPA demurs; the litigation, already five years old, will churn on. Still, what disinterested persons considers the judge's conclusion implausible?

EPA's report came in 1993, when the infant Clinton administration was preparing to micro-manage the nation's health, and hence its behavior. Furthermore, do not all bureaucracies tend to try to maximize their missions? EPA's mission is to reduce environmental hazards. What kind of people are apt to be attracted to work in EPA? Those prone to acute anxieties about hazards. Is an agency apt to get increased appropriations and media attention by moderate assessments of hazards? What is the evidentiary value of the EPA defenders' assertion, in response to the judge, that in California (where smoking has been banned even in bars) the state EPA agrees that secondhand smoke is a serious carcinogen?

The anti-tobacco crusade was a money grab by government that, had the grab succeeded, would have acquired a dependence on a continuous high level of smoking to fund programs paid for by exactions from a legal industry selling a legal product to free people making foolish choices. The crusade's rationale was threefold: Secondhand smoke is deadly to nonsmokers; people start smoking because they, poor things, are putty in the hands of advertisers; smokers cannot stop because nicotine is too addictive.

The last rationale is inconvenienced by the fact that there are almost as many American ex-smokers as smokers. The assertion of the irresistible power of advertising is so condescending toward the supposedly malleable masses (notice, the people who assert the power of advertising never include themselves among the susceptible), the anti-tobacco crusade had to become a children's crusade. Hence the reiterated assertion that almost as many 6-year-olds—90 percent of them—recognize Joe Camel as recognize Mickey Mouse. This assertion, akin to EPA's ''science,'' was based entirely on interviews with 23 Atlanta preschoolers. There has been no demonstration that advertising by tobacco brands increases tobacco consumption (rather than particular brands' market shares).

One mechanism of the money grab was to be a tax increase of up to $1.50 per pack. However, John E. Calfee of the American Enterprise Institute, writing in the Weekly

Standard, notes that in the late 1970s, when teenage smoking declined nearly one-third, cigarette prices were declining about 15 percent. Given that teenage smokers smoke an average of only eight cigarettes a day, adding even a dime per smoke ($2 per pack) would not deter them.

The 40 percent decline in smoking between 1975 and 1993 coincided with a public health campaign emphasizing individual responsibility for choices. Then came the Clinton administration and the ascendancy of victimology: Wicked corporations preying upon helpless individuals are responsible for individuals' behavior. Calfee says per capita cigarette consumption has barely declined since 1993.

Also in the Weekly Standard, Dennis Prager, a theologian and talk-show host, notes that the full apparatus of the modern state has been mobilized for ''the largest public relations campaign in history teaching Americans this: If you smoke, you are in no way responsible for what happens to you. You are entirely a victim.''

This assault on the idea of personal responsibility, Prager writes, further pollutes ''a country that regularly teaches its citizens to blame others—government, ads, parents, schools, movies, genes, sugar, tobacco , alcohol, sexism, racism—for their poor decisions and problems.'' This assault, a result of the politics produced by a culture of irresponsibility, is an emblematic fruit of Clintonism.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMED FORCES

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 1998

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, as an Army brat, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 294.

H. Con. Res. 294 is the resolution to recognize the 50th anniversary of the integration of the Armed Forces. The integration of the military was crucial to enhancing the quality of life not only for my family, but for the children of all Black military personnel.

I am proud of my father, Lt. Col. (retired) Garvin A. Tutt. He fought for this country during World War II as a member of the 92nd battalion in Italy. He also served the United States with honor in the subsequent Korean conflict. Yet, I vividly remember that back in the States, my dad, my mother, my sisters and myself could not eat in restaurants, could not attend movie theaters in town, could not drink out of water fountains except those marked ''colored'' only. However, after Executive Order 9981, military bases became ''safe havens'' where at least recreational facilities on base were open to African American families. Oftentimes, Ft. Bliss, in which my dad was stationed, was the only ''Safe Haven'' for my family.

As an adult, I have had the privilege to work for my predecessor, a former Marine and a great champion for justice, Congressman Ron Dellums, During my employment with Ron, I had the honor to work with great African American Heroes of the United States Armed Forces such as the Tuskegee airmen. They are loyal and dedicated Americans who sacrificed so much for their country, all the while suffering the degradation and humiliation of segregation.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that Americans who were born after the civil rights movement realize the extent of the overt, divisive and punishing discrimination against a group of people, African Americans, the extent of their alienation from the rest of the people of the United States. The United States Armed Forces, more than any other body of its size, is an institution based on a strict set of explicit and implicit rules of behavior. The act and process of integration of the armed services is a political, social, and legal phenomenon that must be appreciated, recognized, praised, honored, and made known to all Americans, all people who are committed to a just and fair society.

When President Truman issued Executive Order 9981 in 1948, it was six years before Brown vs Board of Education and ten years before the nominal integration of some of our schools. Through his leadership, President Truman eradicated the legal structure of racism in our military force. The integration of the military had remarkable, positive consequences for American society. I believe that this is a story of success largely unknown to people outside of the Armed Forces. This is a story of the Government taking a series of steps to bring equality of access to all personnel. This work made training available; supported promotions, and allowed people to gain experience, which has led to the promotion of African American non-commissioned and commissioned officers. This is the successful story, still unfolding, of a major branch of the Government working to rid itself of the evils of racism and segregation.

50 years is not a long time, Mr. Speaker. The vestiges of racism and discrimination still exist. I hope that, as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the integration of our Armed Forces, we recommit ourselves to ending bigotry in this country.

MR. STARR: NO OCTOBER SURPRISE, PLEASE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, media reports this week suggest that Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr may be close to wrapping up his four year, forty million dollar investigation of the President. If that is true, I can only say that it's about time. Even my Republican colleagues in the Senate, Mr. ORRIN HATCH and Mr. ARLEN SPECTER, said this week that it is time for this investigation to come to a close.

While we have no way of knowing what action, if any, the Independent Counsel will take after he closes-up shop, one thing is for certain: if he intends to send any type of report to Congress, he should not do so before the mid-term elections.

Each day, countless talking heads spend hours on end speculating about who's up and who's down in this investigation of the President. But almost no time is spent on issues that really matter in this election, like health care reform, tobacco legislation, and campaign finance reform. While the talking heads base their opinions on gossip and supposed leaks, the issues that matter in people's lives get overlooked.

We have very few days left in this legislative session to get the people's work done, certainly not enough to consider or respond to anything that comes from the independent Counsel's office. If we were to receive a report before the upcoming elections, it could only be seen as an effort to influence the outcome of those contests.

Mr. Starr is supposed to be an independent prosecutor, but all too often since he took office in 1994, he has seemed to wear his politics on his sleeve. Mr. Starr has chosen to continue representing clients, including tobacco companies, whose interests are adverse to those of President Clinton. Many in the Republican party would like nothing better than to play politics with a report from the Independent Counsel. That is especially true because we need only eleven seats to take back the House of Representatives this fall. Not only would it be wrong for the Independent Counsel to provide fuel for that fire, it would undermine whatever integrity his investigation may retain.

If the Independent Counsel intends to send us a report, the right thing for him to do is to wait until the new Congress begins its work. Mr. Starr, for the good of our country, don't play politics with the timing of your investigation of the President. No October surprise, please.

H.R. 4162—THE REGULATORY INFORMATION PRESENTATION ACT

HON. HELEN CHENOWETH

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 1998

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, on June 25, 1998, I introduced H.R. 4162, a bill that will assist the American public, small business and anyone else interested in understanding how a decision was reached by the federal government when publishing regulations. My bill, entitled the ''Regulatory Information Presentation Act,'' is presented to the Congress for comments and to bring the issue for debate.

In May of this year, the GAO released a report that points to the need for this legislation. The report, entitled ''Regulatory Reform Agencies Could Improve Development, Documentation, and Clarity of Regulatory Economic Analyses,'' should be read by all of my colleagues.

Currently, the Administrative Procedure Act, provides only that a notice of proposed rulemaking must include the legal authority for a rule and ''either the terms or substance of the proposed rule and/or description of the subjects and issues involved.'' The provisions for final rule are even more general: They must ''incorporate * * * a concise general statement of their basis and purpose.''

The above APA provisions were adopted in 1966. Since then, there has been a demand for more rigorous analysis of proposed rules and increased ''transparency'' in the rulemaking process. In addition, since 1981, several Presidents have uniformly required OMB and the Federal agencies to address certain analytical issues in rulemakings, and particularly in major regulatory actions. The current Executive Order is E.O., 12866, which was signed by President Clinton in September 1993. The previous Executive Order 12291, was signed by President Reagan in February