

the water system. The city has no alternative water source.

In addition, representatives from TECO/Union Power Station; Union County Water Board, El Dorado Chemical/Great Lakes Chemical/Lion Oil; International Paper; and the City of Monroe, LA presented oral or written testimony expressing their concerns about the effects to their businesses or cities if the navigation pools on the Ouachita River were not available for use.

EXPECTED RESULTS OF LOSS OF POOLS ON
OUACHITA/BLACK RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM

Increased depletion of the Sparta Aquifer resulting in ground water restrictions for areas of south Arkansas and resulting economic impact of those restrictions.

The loss of millions of dollars already invested to develop the river as a water source for El Dorado and Union County and increased expenses to treat water being returned to river by industrial users to meet EPA and ADEQ standards.

Potential closure of three electric power plants serving the area along with increased costs to area consumers for electrical power.

Potential closure of seven paper products facilities located on the Ouachita River and elimination of as many as 3,200 jobs.

Potential loss of water supply for the city of Camden, AR and resulting undetermined costs of studying and developing an alternative water source.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND RECREATIONAL LOSSES

The precise dollar value of changes to the environmental and recreational climate of to south Arkansas if the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System is closed are difficult to calculate.

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission believes the loss of the navigation pool on the Ouachita River would have far reaching environmental and recreational impacts. The river has a high recreational value and attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year for fishing, boating, hunting and other recreational activities. These visitors pour millions of recreation dollars into the local economy.

In Arkansas alone, there are 37 public access areas constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and other groups on the Ouachita and Saline Rivers. Changes in the operation of the lock and dam system would make many of the rivers' boat launching sites unusable. These changes will also affect the environmental characteristics of the river and associated wetlands and overflow areas.

The Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism reports that in 2003, travelers in the five Arkansas Counties in the Lower Ouachita River Valley spent more than \$118 million, generating more than \$9 million in tax revenue to state and local governments.

SUMMARY

Closure of the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System would have a profound, far-reaching effect on the economy and environment of south Arkansas and northeast Louisiana. Although the system was built as a navigation project, its economic benefit has gone far beyond its value as a navigation system. The river has become the very lifeblood of many cities, industries and recreational pursuits. Its value to the environment and as a water resource supporting the continued growth and economic vitality of south Arkansas and northeast Louisiana is beyond measure. Operation of the navigation project should not be closed, nor should it be changed, without a comprehensive study of the consequences of such actions.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DOUGLAS P.
ZIPES, M.D.

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Douglas P. Zipes, M.D., Distinguished Professor of Medicine and of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. Zipes is retiring as Director of the Division of Cardiology and Director of the Krannert Institute of Cardiology at the Indiana University School of Medicine on June 30, 2004. Though not a native Hoosier, Dr. Zipes is a credit to his adopted state of Indiana and the institution to which he has devoted his professional life, Indiana University.

Dr. Zipes began his academic career at Indiana University School of Medicine in 1970. Despite many offers over the years to move to higher academic positions at other prestigious institutions, Dr. Zipes remained at Indiana University. There he developed the premier program dedicated to discovering the causes and treatments of heart rhythm disturbances, a leading cause of death in the United States and around the world.

The name Doug Zipes is known in every hospital and school of medicine in the world that deals with cardiovascular medicine. His research into heart rhythm disturbances has been prodigious. His publications of seminal original research in this area number in the hundreds. His breadth of knowledge in this arena, based on personal investigation and original research, is unsurpassed. His basic scientific evaluations have led to clinical studies which have, in turn, been translated by Dr. Zipes into everyday therapies in clinical medicine. His work has saved the lives of countless individuals around the world.

Dr. Zipes has been honored across the globe for his contributions to cardiovascular medicine. He has delivered the most prestigious lectures, chaired the most important committees, edited the most-read and most authoritative textbook, advised governments and trained scores of physicians who now have assumed positions of authority in cardiovascular medicine.

Through all this, Doug Zipes remains a local physician, engaged in the community through his leadership in the Indianapolis Opera Company and other civic affairs.

He remains a physician most of all because, despite his debilitating schedule of publication deadlines, national and international travel, lectures, committee attendance, administrative details and the like, he regularly insists on attending to patients for whom he has cared for decades.

Dr. Zipes is a national and international treasure for whom the country and the world should rise and applaud. I speak for all Hoosiers when I wish him the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his contributions to the art and science of medicine, the State of Indiana and the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 1, 2004, I was necessarily and unavoidably unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall 210—House Con. Res. 295, congratulating the Focus: HOPE organization, "yes."

Rollcall 211—House Con. Res. 612 recognizing and honoring those fighting the March 26, 2004, fire in Richmond, VA, "yes."

Rollcall 212—House Con. Res. 147 honoring the Tuskegee Airmen, "yes."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH
REISER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise and pay tribute today to Joseph Reiser of Arvada, Colorado. A true American patriot, Joe is a decorated veteran of World War II. The service and dedication that Joe has displayed in his commitment to our nation is truly remarkable, and it is my honor to recognize his achievements here today.

A native of Pennsylvania, Joe entered the Army in 1943, and with a background in maintenance, served as an automotive mechanic. In 1944 Joe was sent to Normandy and served in the European Theatre until the end of the war. His courageous service earned him numerous awards and citations, including the Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, and European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with five Bronze Stars. After Joe returned from the war, he took a position with the United States Postal Service, becoming Postal Supervisor for the Wyoming Valley Post Office Maintenance Garage.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the service and dedication of Joseph Reiser before this body of Congress and this nation. The freedoms we enjoy today are a direct result of the sacrifices made by veterans throughout our nation. I sincerely thank him for his dedication, and wish him and his wife Clara all the best.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day this year has new, sharp meaning for us, as we remember the deaths of the American soldiers who have so recently given their lives for our freedom. By the grace of God, no soldier from my district has died in Iraq or Afghanistan, but I join the whole Nation in mourning the men and women who have given their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring