

DGC, and the pipelines reached settlement agreements in 1994 that are expressly subject to FERC approval. Again, it is worth mentioning that FERC has already approved one of the four settlement agreements.

The administrative law judge's decision disapproved the remaining settlements negotiated between DGC and three of the four pipelines, and ruled that the pricing formula in the gas purchase agreements—as approved by opinion 119—should no longer be honored. Additionally, the judge's decision put on hold the agreement reached between DGC and DOE, which is contingent on FERC approval of the agreements between DGC and the pipelines. Finally, the decision retroactively imposed a new pricing scheme and ordered refunds that would total approximately \$280 million.

If unchanged, this decision would close the Great Plains Gasification Plant. Mr. President, I believe that result would not serve our national energy interests.

I urge the FERC commissioners to give this matter their most careful consideration, and give great attention to Congress' public policy objective of continued long-term operation of the synfuels project.●

HONORING WALTER WIELOH AND HIS 40 YEARS OF TEACHING AT WEIRTON MADONNA HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly devoted teacher, mentor, and friend to the youth in my State of West Virginia, Mr. Walter Wieloh.

It is heartening and inspiring, I believe, to learn about the career of Mr. Wieloh, a man who dedicated 40 years of his life to teaching. He has been a member of the faculty at Madonna Catholic High School in Weirton, WV, since 1955, teaching several generations of families in the area.

In December, he was honored at a special event at the high school, and I wanted to add my public congratulations to Mr. Wieloh. His career of service to students and his commitment to education for four decades can be an example to all of us.

Walter Wieloh started his teaching career when Madonna High School opened in 1955, and he has been both educator and friend to generations of high school students. To students, he has always been a presence of wisdom and of guidance, inside the classroom and out. The current principal of Madonna, Mr. Robert J. Gill, recalls fondly his days as a student, and later as a colleague, of Mr. Wieloh. He recognizes him as a force of inspiration to students and an example of professionalism to fellow teachers.

Mr. President, Walter Wieloh should be an inspiration to us as well. In his 40 years of educating the youth of Weirton, WV, he represents many hard-working teachers across the country

who have helped improve the lives and future of the students in their classrooms every year. Encouraging young people to learn, excel, and make the transition to adulthood is a challenge that every high school teacher faces, and Walter Wieloh has been a leader for Weirton Madonna High School. On behalf of every West Virginian, I commend Walter Wieloh. He definitely brings pride to his profession, and our State.●

IN SUPPORT OF CONCILIO CUBANO AND INDEPENDENT CUBAN JOURNALISTS

● Mr. MACK. Mr. President, late last year, a broad spectrum of Cuban opposition groups came together in an effort to form Concilio Cubano. Concilio Cubano, or Cuban Council, is a group that seeks to unite an unprecedented number of human rights, professional, political, and other organizations behind a common platform that includes amnesty for political prisoners, free and multiparty elections, and human rights.

The Castro regime's response has been sickeningly familiar. Members of Concilio Cubano have been subjected to lengthy interrogations, violent harassment, and a disinformation campaign.

The Miami Herald in a recent editorial likened Concilio Cubano to Charter 77, the Czech group that bravely opposed the Czech Communist dictatorship. Referring to former dissident, now President, Vaclav Havel, one of the leaders of the group told the Herald, "We have more Havels than they had."

Concilio Cubano plans to meet in late February. In Cuba, that's no simple matter. In the weeks leading up to this meeting, supporters of freedom, democracy, and human rights in Cuba must watch closely and speak out against any continued attempts to intimidate these democratic activists.

Also recently, the Cuban regime has stepped up persecution of journalists affiliated with independent news organizations. The campaign of harassment has included detentions and interrogations.

To my knowledge, the Clinton administration has been silent on the recent harassment of Concilio Cubano's members and independent journalists. The U.S. press has been fairly silent as well. I urge the administration to denounce these violations of the right of free expression and free association and strongly align itself with the supporters of democracy and freedom in Cuba. And I call upon the American press to report on the persecution of their fellow journalists and on Cuba's newest, broadest coalition of democratic activists.

Cuba's people have been subjected to virtually every form of subjugation. Their mildest form of opposition is met with repression. The United States and the American people are their closest friends. I call upon my colleagues in

the Congress, and my fellow citizens to support the Cuban peoples efforts to exercise their inherent rights of free speech and association. The Cuban people have been resisting the Castro dictatorship for over 30 years. For as long as it takes, we must stand alongside them and let them know we support their struggle.●

TRIBUTE TO CYPRESS GARDENS DIAMOND JUBILEE DAY

● Mr. GRAHAM. As we arrived at the Capitol today, we noticed the remaining ice and snow from the blizzard earlier this month.

My thoughts traveled to sunny Florida, America's top tourist destination. Our State is blessed with clean waters, exquisite beaches, subtropical climate, and some of the most beautiful freshwater lakes in the world.

Mr. President, some six decades ago, a visionary named Dick Pope, Sr. looked out upon the blessed beauty of central Florida and created what became Cypress Gardens.

This world renowned attraction, Cypress Gardens, celebrates its diamond jubilee on February 1, 1996. The millions who have visited Cypress Gardens or seen its glory on film join in a national salute to this 60-year milestone.

In the six decades since the founding of Cypress Gardens, the attractions industry in Florida has flourished. Through decades of growth and change, Cypress Gardens retains a special place in Florida's tourism legacy.

These gardens reflect the natural wonderment of Florida, the ingenuity of Dick Pope and the never-ending appeal of quality family entertainment.●

CHRISTMAS IN APRIL

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, as a member of the National Advisory Board of a special outreach program called Christmas in April, I am extremely proud to speak to you today about a tremendously generous group of people who deliver Christmas spirit to low-income families during the spring.

With the support of honorary chairs, NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue, his wife Chan, along with Arizona first lady Ann Symington, Christmas in April, the Nation's largest volunteer home rehabilitation initiative, kicks off its 1996 campaign by rebuilding the homes of two families in Phoenix's Hermosa neighborhood during Super Bowl weekend.

The focus of this charity is rebuilding and repairing the homes of low-income, elderly, and disabled Americans to help provide warmth, safety, and independence to families in need.

Many needy homeowners will receive this assistance in April 1996, when an army of about 140,000 caring volunteers will arrive on the doorsteps of about 4,200 homeowners in 430 cities and towns across the country.

Thanks to the hard work of these volunteers, Christmas in April has expanded to 160 local affiliates in 44

States which contribute \$25 million toward home repairs for disadvantaged Americans across the country.

So at this time, Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to the compassion and commitment of Christmas In April volunteers all across this Nation. Each time a grab bar is installed for a disabled child, every time sturdy stairs are built for an aged widow, and a fresh coat of paint is applied for a needy family—hope and dignity are restored.

Mr. President, this kind of unfailing generosity and kindness are the lifeblood of our country, and once again I commend this group and its volunteers.●

RECOGNIZING SRI LANKA'S 48TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the country of Sri Lanka which will celebrate its 48th anniversary of independence on February 4, 1996. I would like to congratulate a country which during the last four decades has made tremendous strides in socio-economic development in a democratic system.

Democracy in Sri Lanka has deep roots. Its people have maintained a functioning democracy since independence against great odds. There have been regular national elections in Sri Lanka where voter turnout has been remarkably high. At a free and fair Parliamentary election held in August 1994 and observed by an international team including United States nationals, the people of Sri Lanka elected a new Government defeating a political party that was in power for 17 years. This was followed by a Presidential election in November 1994 at which Ms. Chandrika B. Kumaratunga was elected President with a 62-percent mandate. The voter turnout at both these elections was above 70 percent. I would like to congratulate the people of Sri Lanka for their commitment to democracy and improving human rights.

Over the years the United States and Sri Lanka have developed close bilateral relations. Sri Lanka has long hosted a Voice of America station on its territory and a project is well underway to upgrade the station. The United States is Sri Lanka's largest trading partner. The bilateral trade exceeds \$1.4 billion. We have signed a bilateral investment protection treaty and an agreement to protect intellectual property rights.

Sri Lanka has been a pioneer in the South Asian region by liberalizing its economy and following market oriented economic policies. Free Trade Zones have been set up and incentives have been provided for foreign investment. I am pleased to note that there are many United States companies and banks currently operating in Sri Lanka and that the American Chamber of Commerce in Sri Lanka organized a successful United States Trade Fair in 1995.

Sri Lanka's drive for economic development which showed much promise in

the early eighties has been restricted by the ongoing ethnic conflict which escalated in 1983. However, growth rates have averaged 5 percent per year. I am encouraged by the newly elected President's stated priority in finding a lasting political solution to the conflict. I can only share the aspirations of all Sri Lankans that peace will return soon to this beautiful country.●

UNITED NATIONS INSIGNIA

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, we have all been watching the reports as U.S. Army Specialist Michael New has become a casualty of the debate over American troops participating in U.N. operations.

In violating a lawful order issued through the U.S. chain of command, he will be held accountable under the standards set by the U.S. Code of Military Justice for refusing to wear a U.N. cap and shoulder patch.

Specialist New was to have been deployed to participate in Operation "Able Sentry" in Macedonia, the stated purpose of which is to observe the border and discourage, by its presence, the spread of hostilities into Macedonia.

Mr. President, on October 10, Army Specialist Michael New reported for duty without wearing the U.N. shoulder patch and beret he and his unit were issued to wear as part of their uniform while deployed in Macedonia. On October 17, Specialist New was charged for failure to obey a lawful order in violation of Article 92: Uniform Code of Military Justice.

On January 23, 1996, the trial on the facts in the special court-martial of Specialist Michael G. New began. On January 24, the court, composed of officers and enlisted personnel, found Specialist New guilty of the charged offense of failure to obey a lawful order to "wear the prescribed uniform for the deployment to Macedonia." He was found in violation of Article 92: Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Specialist New was sentenced by the court-martial members to be discharged from the U.S. Army with a bad-conduct discharge.

Mr. President, the situation that has resulted from Specialist New's actions has caused me great concern. As one who feels very strongly about this Nation's sovereignty and responsibilities placed on our Armed Forces to protect and defend this Nation, I find myself very frustrated with what has happened.

Mr. President, my sympathy with his decision to refuse to wear the U.N. patch and hat does not change the fact that we must abide by the standards set by the military code of conduct if we are to assure order and fairness in the military. Our military must rely on strict chain of command and order. That is without a doubt.

However, the men and women who have chosen to serve this Nation and the American people should not be put

in a position which forces them to bear allegiance to any nation or organization other than the United States of America. Michael New made the decision to serve in the Armed Forces in order to defend the United States, not the United Nations.

In order to address this situation, I introduced legislation that prevents any member of the U.S. Armed Forces from being required to wear, as part of their military uniform, any insignia of the United Nations.

Mr. President, I hope that we can deal with this issue by proceeding in the legislative process with hearings on S. 1370, which now has 25 cosponsors. In addition, there is still another, broader issue that must be addressed, and that is the use of U.S. Forces under U.N. command.

Mr. President, I would just urge my colleagues to review S. 1370. We must not lose sight of the fact that the men and women who volunteered to serve in our Armed Forces, volunteered to defend the United States of America, not the United Nations.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER, be added as a cosponsor of S. 1370.●

CARL S. WHILLOCK

● Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, on February 29, Carl S. Whillock, one of Arkansas' all-time great citizens, will retire as president and chief executive officer of Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corp. and Arkansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., a post he has held since 1980.

A native of Scotland, AR (Van Buren County), Carl has spent most of his life in public service. Prior to his career with AECEI, he was president of Arkansas State University.

He began a career of public service in our State legislature, serving two terms in the early 1950's. From June of 1955 until January of 1963, Carl served as executive assistant to U.S. Representative J.W. Trimble. He next served as prosecuting attorney of Arkansas' 14th Judicial District from January of 1965 until 1966, when he became assistant to the president of the University of Arkansas. He left that post in July of 1971 to become director of university relations, where he served until April of 1974.

Carl managed the successful gubernatorial campaign of David Pryor in 1974 and served as his executive assistant in 1975. He returned to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville late that year to become vice president of governmental relations and public affairs. In July of 1978, he became president of Arkansas State University.

Carl attended the University of Central Arkansas at Conway and Emory University in Atlanta, GA, before earning a degree in social welfare from the University of Arkansas at