

the McCook County search and rescue unit illustrate how the actions of a community can bring some relief to the victims of this natural disaster, and I ask you to join me in thanking them for their selfless efforts.●

RECOGNITION OF THE ASSISTANCE OF BOY SCOUT TROOPS 48, 112, 152, AND 159 OF SIOUX FALLS AND TROOP 582 OF BRANDON DURING THE FLOODS OF 1997

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity today to recognize the important work of Boy Scouts from Troops 48, 112, 152, 159, and 582 in ongoing flood recovery efforts in the Dakotas.

Early this year, residents of Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota experienced relentless snowstorms and bitterly cold temperatures. Snowdrifts as high as buildings, roads with only one lane cleared, homes without heat for days, hundreds of thousands of dead livestock, and schools closed for a week at a time were commonplace. As if surviving the severe winter cold was not challenge enough, residents of the upper Midwest could hardly imagine the extent of damage Mother Nature had yet to inflict with a 500-year flood. Record levels on the Big Sioux River and Lake Kampeska forced over 5,000 residents of Watertown, SD to evacuate their homes and left over one-third of the city without sewer and water for 3 weeks. The city of Bruce, SD was completely under water when record low temperatures turned swollen streams into sheets of ice.

The 50,000 residents of Grand Forks, ND and 10,000 residents of East Grand Forks, MN were forced to leave their homes and businesses as the Red River overwhelmed their cities in April. The devastation was astounding; an entire city underwater and a fire that gutted a majority of Grand Forks' downtown. Residents of both cities recently were allowed to return to what is left of their homes, and the long and difficult process of rebuilding shattered lives is just beginning.

Heavy winter snows forced Big Stone Lake, along the South Dakota and Minnesota border, to 9 feet above flood level. The rising waters drove 40 families from their homes and caused vast amounts of damage. Volunteers from the surrounding communities quickly came to the residents' assistance, but once the flood waters began to recede, residents faced countless hours of clean up on their own. That is when the 45 young men of Troops 48, 112, 152, 159, and 582 rose to the challenge and traveled to Big Stone City to help residents clean up.

While those of us from the Midwest will never forget the destruction wrought by this year's floods, I have been heartened to witness firsthand and hear accounts of South Dakotans coming together within their community to protect homes, farms, and en-

tire towns from rising flood waters. The selfless actions of Boy Scout Troops 48, 112, 152, 159, and 582 illustrate the resolve within South Dakotans to help our neighbors in times of trouble.

Mr. President, there is much more to be done to rebuild and repair impacted communities. The Boy Scout troops of Sioux Falls and Brandon illustrate how the actions of a community can bring some relief to the victims of this natural disaster, and I ask you to join me in thanking them for their selfless efforts.●

RECOGNITION OF SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL LETTER CARRIERS DURING THE FLOODS OF 1997

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity today to recognize the important work of South Dakota rural letter carriers in providing mail service to rural residents despite record flooding and washed-out roads.

Early this year, residents of Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota experienced relentless snowstorms and bitterly cold temperatures. Snowdrifts as high as buildings, roads with only one lane cleared, homes without heat for days, hundreds of thousands of dead livestock, and schools closed for a week at a time were commonplace. As if surviving the severe winter cold was not challenge enough, residents of the upper Midwest could hardly imagine the extent of damage Mother Nature had yet to inflict with a 500-year flood. Record levels on the Big Sioux River and Lake Kampeska forced over 5,000 residents of Watertown, SD to evacuate their homes and left over one-third of the city without sewer and water for 3 weeks. The city of Bruce, SD was completely under water when record low temperatures turned swollen streams into sheets of ice.

The average rural mail route is 95 miles long in South Dakota, compared to 35 miles in the rest of the country. This spring's flooding added to that distance as a number of Federal, State, and county roads were submerged under running water. I have received numerous reports of Postal Service employees taking extraordinary steps to provide service to their fellow South Dakotans during this disaster. Often, this service has been provided at their own expense.

While those of us from the Midwest will never forget the destruction wrought by this year's floods, I have been heartened to witness first-hand and hear accounts of South Dakotans helping to restore the livelihood of their community. The selfless actions of individuals like the South Dakota rural letter carriers illustrate the resolve within South Dakotans to help our neighbors in times of trouble.

Mr. President, there is much more to be done to rebuild and repair impacted communities. The South Dakota rural

letter carriers illustrate how the actions of a community can bring some relief to the victims of this natural disaster, and I ask you to join me in thanking them for their selfless efforts.●

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, last week the Senate adopted the emergency supplemental bill by a vote of 78 to 21. As one of the Members who voted against it, I wanted to take this opportunity to explain my vote.

I reluctantly voted for the last disaster relief bill—even though I believed it contained too many nonemergency spending times and that it exacerbated an already inequitable transportation funding situation for Michigan. The reason I did so was the inclusion of the continuing resolution language that would have protected Americans from another Government shutdown and the loss of necessary Government services.

The legislation adopted on Thursday did not contain this protection, and so left the American taxpayer and the Congress at the mercy of a President who has consistently demanded ever-higher levels of Government spending, and who is willing to shutdown the Federal Government to get it.

Moreover, the legislation contained extraneous, nonemergency spending items as well as more money than the Congress was willing to spend just a few short weeks ago. As a final insult, this legislation fails to fully offset the additional spending it provides, and therefore will result in another increase to the deficit.

Mr. President, I sympathize with the plight of the people living in the flooded States and I fully support providing the disaster assistance they need to rebuild their communities and their lives. However, for the Congress to adopt legislation which adds to the deficit, includes nonemergency extraneous matters, and that does not protect the taxpayers against another Government shutdown, was in my view wholly irresponsible and not deserving of my support. ●

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF HOOKSETT ON ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the town of Hooksett, NH on their 175th anniversary. Hooksett is celebrating their 175th birthday during the month of July, and the town's citizens will highlight these festivities with the dedication of a new safety center and numerous other activities. This New Hampshire town has a significant heritage to celebrate on their 175th anniversary.

The history of Hooksett began in the 1700's. The early settlers of this untamed country were independent and self-sufficient folk, characteristics that

have endured in the people of this region. With their independent spirit and determination they built a strong and lasting community that makes their descendants proud. What is now Hooksett was once part of three other communities during the 18th century. The residents of these towns were dissatisfied with having to travel 17 miles over rugged terrain to the community of Chester to attend church or to vote.

On June 11, 1782, 40 years before the town would be incorporated, the General Court granted a petition that established a ferry at Isle of Hooksett Falls. The town would eventually take its name from this area. These strong-spirited citizens were determined to form their own community and five petitions later to the General Court, Hooksett was finally incorporated July 2, 1822. The first town meeting was at Halls Tavern on September 16, 1822, where the first town officials of Hooksett took the oath to serve the people of the community. The voters elected: the Honorable Richard H. Ayer, selectman and moderator; Samuel head, selectman; Samuel Poor, selectman and Gideon Flanders as town clerk. The residents also elected constables, surveyors of lumber, treasurer, hog reeves and a school committee.

Today, the town of Hooksett prides itself on its quality of life and community spirit, a tradition that has manifested itself throughout the town's history. This town of 9,400 residents boasts not only magnificent surroundings, but a community of friendly, caring neighbors as well.

Mr. President, I congratulate the town of Hooksett on this historic milestone and wish them a happy 175th anniversary celebration. I send them my best wishes for continued success and a prosperous year as they mark their 175th birthday. Happy birthday, Hooksett.●

TRIBUTE TO THE TRUMAN MEDICAL CENTER EAST

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to an extremely important and successful medical facility, Truman Medical Center East—Truman East—Kansas City, MO. On Friday, June 20, 1997, a special dedication will be held in honor of the new Truman East Care Center and ambulatory/emergency services renovation/expansion project.

Truman East has been serving residents of eastern Jackson County since the mid-1800's and continues to meet the challenges of this growing area.

Truman East is primarily a teaching institution for the University of Missouri—Kansas City School of Health Sciences. It contains the department of family and community medicine along with the large family practice residency program which provides primary care. In addition, Truman East manages the Jackson County Health Department in Independence, MO. It has an extensive gerontology fellowship

which provides excellent opportunities for the elderly to enhance the quality of daily life.

One of the biggest improvements to the facility is the replacement of a 212-room long term care residency with a state-of-the-art facility. The older buildings, from 1908 and 1930, have been converted into offices in order to keep the renovations cost effective. Students and health care professionals alike will benefit from these expansions and improvements of the Truman East facility.

It is a great privilege to honor this high caliber medical facility. I know that Truman East will continue to improve and grow for years to come. The State of Missouri is lucky to have such a facility and I want to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who makes Truman East excel.●

CONGRATULATING TRUMBULL HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a class of students from Trumbull High School in Trumbull, CT, who won an award at the "We the People * * * The Citizen and the Constitution" national finals held in Washington, DC. These students, under the direction of their teacher, Rita Altieri, were recognized for their expertise on unit 6, "Role of Citizen" of the "We the People * * *" curriculum. This award is given to the school achieving the highest cumulative score during the first 2 days of the national finals in each of the six units.

I hope my colleagues will join with me in recognizing these outstanding young Americans who competed against 50 other classes from all across the Nation. They have clearly demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.●

IWO JIMA MEMORIAL WEEKLY EVENING PARADE

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to bring up to the attention of my colleagues a very special event that occurred recently. On June 10, 1997, I was privileged to participate in an evening parade sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps at the Iwo Jima Memorial.

As my colleagues know, the Marine Corps hosts these parades weekly during the summer for local residents, tourists, and supporters of the Armed Forces. However, this parade was particularly special for those of us who treasure our Nation's military history and traditions.

The parade was attended by the Secretary of the Navy, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, other distinguished leaders, and a collection of Iwo Jima survivors. Amidst great anticipation, the Secretary seized this unique forum to announce that the latest WASP Class amphibious warship, the LHD-7, would be named the "USS. IWO JIMA."

As the sponsor of previous legislation to provide this designation for the LHD-7, I was both pleased and privileged to participate in this very special event. Indeed, as the Sun slowly set over Arlington cemetery, the Iwo Jima Memorial was aglow against the backdrop of the Washington skyline. And those veterans of Iwo Jima who graced us with their presence seemed transformed once again into the same youthful heroes who fought so nobly in defense of freedom 52 years ago. It was a very, very special night.

Mr. President, for the benefit of my colleagues who were not able to attend last week's parade, I would like to take this opportunity to insert into the RECORD the statements delivered by the Secretary of the Navy and myself in commemoration of the event. While it is difficult to capture in mere words the essence of that wonderful evening, it is my hope that the American people will be able to review these remarks and, perhaps, gain a better appreciation of the U.S. Marine Corps, its history, and tradition. I know that I was enriched by the experience, and I want to personally thank Gen. Chuck Krulak and America's Corps of Marines for the honor of participating in this unforgettable event.

I ask that the speeches delivered at the Iwo Jima Memorial on June 10, 1997, by Secretary of Navy John Dalton and myself be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB SMITH—JUNE 10, 1997

Thank you very much General Krulak. Secretary Dalton, Admiral Johnson, my host General West, fellow veterans, particularly veterans of Iwo Jima that are with us tonight, members of the Armed Services, ladies and gentlemen.

Tonight, we gather against the backdrop of this wonderful shrine, to commemorate the long and distinguished history of our United States Marine Corps. We also celebrate the designation of the latest WASP-Class Amphibious Assault ship the "USS Iwo Jima."

It is a very special evening, and I am deeply honored to participate in these activities.

In the annals of military history, no battle conjures up more powerful or compelling images than Iwo Jima. That ferocious battle, to capture four miles of strategic island territory, is forever a part of our national character. And it will forever define our United States Marine Corps.

Between February 19th and March 26th, 1945, 19,000 Americans were wounded and 7,000 were killed in the campaign to capture Iwo Jima. This was no walk through the park. This was lengthy, brutal, hand to hand, close quarters combat.

There were no stealth fighters, satellites or precision guided munitions at Iwo Jima. No attack helicopters, infrared sensors or tomahawk cruise missiles, either. Our secret weapon was the tenacity and unbridled patriotism of 80,000 United States Marines.

There was nothing high tech about these leathernecks. They weren't pretty and they weren't glamorous. But those Marines gave everything they had. They provided exactly what technology couldn't. Guts. Courage. Valor. Discipline. Unparalleled heroism.

As Admiral Chester Nimitz concluded after the battle, and I quote, "among the Americans who served on Iwo Island, uncommon valor was a common virtue."