

watch the testimony of witnesses who gave compelling evidence of criminal wrongdoing by foreign donors to the Democratic party during the 1996 elections. The result of such testimony even prompted a key Democrat on the committee, Senator Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, to publicly acknowledge that there was a Chinese government plan to influence the elections. Unfortunately, CNN viewers were not given the opportunity to draw their own conclusions.

Now, I have come to learn that your network is planning to provide live coverage of this week's scheduled testimony of former Republican National Committee chairman, Haley Barbour. Unlike previous witnesses, who linked one Democratic fundraiser to possible charges of espionage and illegal influence buying and peddling, Mr. Barbour has not been charged with any crime nor has he broken any laws. Why does CNN deem Mr. Barbour's testimony so important as to merit live coverage? Is your network "celebrity watching"—like "Entertainment Tonight"?

What can be said about CNN's decision to only provide live coverage of Mr. Barbour's testimony is media bias at best, and tabloid journalism at worst. Your intensive coverage of the O.J. Simpson trial suggests that the later is more accurate. It's apparent that CNN has already decided what the public is interested in watching instead of the public making that decision for themselves.

Sincerely,

LARRY E. CRAIG,
Chairman.

HONORING THE SUETTERLINS ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, families are the cornerstone of America. The data are undeniable: Individuals from strong families contribute to the society. In an era when nearly half of all couples married today will see their union dissolve into divorce, I believe it is both instructive and important to honor those who have taken the commitment of "till death us do part" seriously, demonstrating successfully the timeless principles of love, honor, and fidelity. These characteristics make our country strong.

For these important reasons, I rise today to honor Catherine and Martin Suetterlin of St. Louis County, MO, who on September 27, 1997, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. My wife, Janet, and I look forward to the day we can celebrate a similar milestone. The Suetterlins' commitment to the principles and values of their marriage deserves to be saluted and recognized.

NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I rise today in support of a Senate resolution submitted by the distinguished Senator from Idaho. Senate Resolution 96 sponsored by Senator LARRY CRAIG would designate the week of March 15 through March 21, 1998 as "National Safe Place Week."

Project Safe Place is a creative approach to serving youth and families in crisis. I am particularly pleased to co-sponsor this resolution on behalf of the

first program started in my home State of Kentucky. Project Safe Place began in a firehouse in Louisville, KY in 1983, providing a safe haven from various negative influences such as child abuse, substance abuse, and crime. Safe Places put distressed children and families in touch with the resources they need to keep them safe. This assistance often comes in the form of counseling and a safe and secure place to stay.

Today, the Safe Place Program has spread to 34 States across the country. More than 6,000 business locations displaying the black and yellow Safe Place sign indicating that those in need can seek help from those inside.

The Safe Place Program exemplifies the best in our local communities. Project Safe Place is about community businesses and volunteers working together to help the most vulnerable in our society. It is essential that we bring this valuable program to every community, because those in need feel more comfortable in turning to resources in their own neighborhoods and communities.

By designating March 15 through March 21, 1998 as "National Safe Place Week," we not only bring public awareness to this outstanding program, but recognize those volunteers and businesses who give so much to make our communities a truly safe place. I urge my colleagues to lend their names to this worthwhile legislation.

RETIREMENT OF CAROLE STEVENSON

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I would like to say a few words about a dedicated Senate employee, Carole Stevenson, who is retiring after 30 years of Federal service. Carole worked for me when I served as chairman of the Rules Committee. She currently works on the staff of our colleague, TIM JOHN-SON.

Carole held a number of jobs as she went about acquiring her 30 years of service. She worked for Senators Capehart and Kefauver in the fifties, the Architect of the Capitol and the executive branch in the sixties, and the Office of Technology Assessment in the mid-seventies. She even took off a decade to have and raise a family.

Carole joined the staff of the Senate Rules Committee in 1977 and stayed for 20 years. She held a variety of jobs, moving from front office receptionist, to room reservationist, to secretary and staff assistant in the Technical Services section of the Rules Committee.

To put it simply, Carole was a hard worker who took pride in her work. She always wanted to do a good job for her employer, and she did. She loves the Senate, so she did her best.

I want to personally thank Carole for her service to the Senate. Her many friends in this great institution will miss her. All of us wish her well in her retirement.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT OF DRAFT LEGISLATION ENTITLED "THE IMMIGRATION REFORM TRANSITION ACT OF 1997"—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 55

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to submit for your immediate consideration and enactment the "Immigration Reform Transition Act of 1997," which is accompanied by a section-by-section analysis. This legislative proposal is designed to ensure that the complete transition to the new "cancellation of removal" (formerly "suspension of deportation") provisions of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA; Public Law 104-208) can be accomplished in a fair and equitable manner consistent with our law enforcement needs and foreign policy interests.

This legislative proposal would aid the transition to IIRIRA's new cancellation of removal rules and prevent the unfairness of applying those rules to cases pending before April 1, 1997, the effective date of the new rules. It would also recognize the special circumstances of certain Central Americans who entered the United States in the 1980s in response to civil war and political persecution. The Nicaraguan Review Program, under successive Administrations from 1985 to 1995, protected roughly 40,000 Nicaraguans from deportation while their cases were under review. During this time the *American Baptist Churches v. Thornburgh* (ABC) litigation resulted in a 1990 court settlement, which protected roughly 190,000 Salvadorans and 50,000 Guatemalans. Other Central Americans have been unable to obtain a decision on their asylum applications for many years. Absent this legislative proposal, many of these individuals would be denied protection from deportation under IIRIRA's new cancellation of removal rules. Such a result would unduly harm stable families and communities here in the United States and undermine our strong interests in facilitating the development of peace and democracy in Central America.

This legislative proposal would delay the effect of IIRIRA's new provisions so that immigration cases pending before April 1, 1997, will continue to be considered and decided under the old suspension of deportation rules as they existed prior to that date. IIRIRA'S new cancellation of removal rules would generally apply to cases commenced on or after April 1, 1997. This proposal dictates no particular outcome of any case. Every application for suspension of deportation or cancellation of removal must still be considered on a case-by-case basis. The proposal simply restores a fair opportunity to those whose cases have long been in the system or have other demonstrable equities.

In addition to continuing to apply the old standards to old cases, this legislative proposal would exempt such cases from IIRIRA's annual cap of 4,000 cancellations of removal. It would also exempt from the cap cases of battered spouses and children who otherwise receive such cancellation.

The proposal also guarantees that the cancellation of removal proceedings of certain individuals covered by the 1990 ABC litigation settlement and certain other Central Americans with long-pending asylum claims will be governed by the pre-IIRIRA substantive standard of 7 years continuous physical presence and extreme hardship. It would further exempt those same individuals from IIRIRA's cap. Finally, individuals affected by the legislation whose time has lapsed for reopening their cases following a removal order would be granted 180 days in which to do so.

My Administration is committed to working with the Congress to enact this legislation. If, however, we are unsuccessful in this goal, I am prepared to examine any available administrative options for granting relief to this class of immigrants. These options could include a grant of Deferred Enforced Departure for certain classes of individuals who would qualify for relief from deportation under this legislative proposal. Prompt legislative action on my proposal would ensure a smooth transition to the full implementation of IIRIRA and prevent harsh and avoidable results.

I urge the Congress to give this legislative proposal prompt and favorable consideration.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 24, 1997.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:01 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2169. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2169. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2591. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Legislative Affairs and Public Liaison), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Chairman of the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Policies for fiscal year 1992; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2592. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Pension Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Disclosure of Premium-Related Information" (RIN1212-AA66) received on July 22, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-2593. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on July 21, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2594. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, eleven rules received on July 22, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2595. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving exports to Brazil; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2596. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report under the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2597. A communication from the Secretary of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Phase Two Recommendations of Task Force on Disclosure Simplification" (RIN3235-AG80, 33-7431) received on July 21, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal Year 1998" (Rept. No. 105-57)

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 1061. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and re-

lated agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-58).

By Mr. CHAFEE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 1000. A bill to designate the United States courthouse at 500 State Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas, as the "Robert J. Dole United States Courthouse".

S. 1043. A bill to designate the United States courthouse under construction at the corner of Las Vegas Boulevard and Clark Avenue in Las Vegas, Nevada, as the "Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse".

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted on July 23, 1997:

By Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on Armed Services:

The following-named officer for appointment in the U.S. Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, United States Code, section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. John N. Abrams, 0000.

Maj. Gen. Roger G. Thompson, Jr., 0000.

Maj. Gen. Michael S. Davison, Jr., 0000.

The following-named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, United States Code, section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (1h) Thomas J. Hill, 0000.

Rear Adm. (1h) Douglas L. Johnson, 0000.

Rear Adm. (1h) Jan H. Nyboer, 0000.

Rear Adm. (1h) Paul V. Quinn, 0000.

The following-named officers for appointment in the U.S. Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, United States Code, section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (1h) John A. Gauss, 0000.

The following Air Force National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force, to the grade indicated, under title 10, United States Code, section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Tommy L. Daniels, 0000.

The following-named officer for appointment in the U.S. Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, United States Code, section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. William J. Begert, 0000.

Maj. Gen. Lance W. Lord, 0000.

The following-named officers for appointment as the Judge Advocate General* and the Assistant Judge Advocate General**, U.S. Army and for appointment to the grade indicated under title 10, United States Code, section 3037:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Walter B. Huffman, 0000*.

Brig. Gen. John D. Altenburg, Jr., 0000**.

The following-named officer for appointment in the U.S. Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, United States Code, section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs, 0000.

The following-named officers for appointment in the Regular Army to the grade indicated under title 10, United States Code, section 624: