

necessary leverage for a comprehensive review of U.S. policy toward Laos," he said.

Mr. Smith said the administration has failed to support the political opposition in Laos and has made no effort to invite opposition leaders to the United States to meet with groups like the National Democratic Institute or International Republican Institute, which promote democracy in other countries.

Sen. Robert C. Smith, New Hampshire Republican, is blocking Mr. Hartwick's nomination along with several other diplomatic appointments because of his concerns about lax security in the State Department and some U.S. embassies.

Mr. Smith, who is not related to Sen. Smith, is also organizing a congressional forum on Laos that will feature leading Lao-tian dissidents.

He has invited Laos' highest-ranking defector, Khamxay Souphanouvong, former finance minister and son of the founder of the current Pathet Lao movement that controls the country.

Bounthone Chanthavixay, another leading political exile, has also been invited to address the invited guests at the Oct. 19 forum.

"Laos has become increasingly and precariously unstable with an ongoing string of bombings and political violence seemingly spinning out of control," Mr. Smith said.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL HAYES DETTMER

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michael Hayes Dettmer, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Michigan, who will be return to private practice in January. After six years of service, Mike will leave the job of chief federal law enforcement officers and prosecutor for 49 counties in western Michigan and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and return to practice law in Traverse City, a community in my northern Michigan congressional district.

Mike Dettmer's appointment by President Clinton to this position followed a distinguished career in Michigan. A trial lawyer since 1972, he served as the 59th president of the State Bar of Michigan in 1993 and 1994, having been elected to that position by the lawyers throughout Michigan.

Mike served as chairman of the state bar's Professionalism Task Force and he served as co-chairman of the Standing Committee on Professionalism, as well as chairing numerous other bars committees. At the Department of Justice he chairs the Attorney General's policy committee relating to Office of Justice programs, and he is a member of the Committee on Native American Issues and Civil Justice Issues.

My Michigan colleague, FRED UPTON, recently paid public homage to Mike's work, praising in an Associated Press story Mike's efforts in fighting crime in Benton Harbor, a community in Congressman UPTON's district and an area where drugs are a particular problem.

A Michigander through and through, Mike graduated from Michigan State University and received his law degree from the Wayne State University School of Law in 1971.

Mike brought new energy to the position of U.S. Attorney, and I know he is leaving the job in the belief that it demands new blood, fresh ideas and constant renewal.

Mike has always been an avid golfer, but I know that his golf score will greatly benefit from the some additional time on the fairways, time that he may now have, with the demands of his federal job behind him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in offering our thanks to this public servant for a job well done. I welcome his return to northern Michigan.

REINTRODUCING H.R. 5669

HON. JOHN R. KASICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduced a bill, H.R. 5669, that was previously introduced this Congress as H.R. 82 in order to clarify the appropriate referral of comparable legislation in subsequent Congresses. The error in the referral of the original bill resulted from confusion arising from House rule changes during the 104th and 105th Congresses that granted the Budget Committee jurisdiction over budget process legislation.

My staff worked closely with the Office of the Parliamentarian to resolve the jurisdictional issues related to this bill. My introduction of the bill should not be construed as indicating my support for the measure. In fact, I oppose the concept of taking the Civil Service Trust Fund off budget, which this bill would require. I also introduced a new bill, H.R. 5670, to establish the appropriate referral of this type a measure.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEN WHO FLEW EC-121

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the brave men who flew the EC-121 Lockheed Super Constellation from Otis Air Force Base (AFB), Massachusetts, in the 1950's and 1960's. The 19 member crews of these aircraft flew countless radar surveillance missions to provide early warning radar coverage for the United States during the height of the Cold War and were a first line of defense against a surprise attack. In particular, I want to pay tribute to the fifty officers and airmen who died when three EC-121's crashed in the North Atlantic.

Otis AFB, located on Cape Cod, was the only Air Defense Command base with units performing three of the Air Defense Command's prime missions: radar picket plane surveillance, fighter-interception, and ground-to-air missile operations. With the completion of the Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line in 1958, the northern areas of the United States and Canada were still vulnerable. Consequently, the radar warning networks were extended seaward at Otis AFB on the east by using the 551st Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) Wing. This wing supplemented the

radar protection along the East Coast of the United States.

The 551st Wing at Otis was the only Air Force organization flying the EC-121H "Warning Star" Super Constellation known as Airborne Long Range Input (ALRI) aircraft. Those aircraft carried more than six tons of complex radar and computer communications equipment on each flight and provided instantaneous automated relay of air defense surveillance and early warning information by data-link direct to ground based communications facilities. This information was then passed to high speed Semi-Automatic Ground Environment (SAGE) Air Defense Command and Control computers in the East Coast SAGE Direction Centers and to the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) Combat Operations Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, for air defense evaluation and action. It is interesting to note, especially for the younger generation, that the 551st Wing flew their continuous missions over the Atlantic Ocean 24 hours a day.

On March 2, 1965, the 551st AEW&C Wing celebrated its 10th anniversary. It was noted that the 551st Wing had progressed through many changes—some involving electronic equipment and other gear. Still the mission continued to be an effective—although more sophisticated—form of radar surveillance against the enemy. During that decade, the aircraft of the 551st Wing had accumulated more than 350,000 hours of early warning radar surveillance missions over the North Atlantic without an accident involving personal injury or a fatality. However, the fatality-free decade celebration didn't last long.

The ten-year celebration hardly had ended when on July 11, 1965, one of the Super Constellations, the Air Force model EC-121H radar aircraft, developed a fire in the number three engine. The decision was made to try ditching the plane approximately 100 miles from Nantucket, Massachusetts, in the North Atlantic. Unfortunately, touchdown in the nighttime ditching in zero-zero weather, while on fire, was very difficult. The aircraft crashed and broke apart. Of the 19 people on board, three crew members survived and 16 died. Seven of the crew members' bodies were never recovered.

On Veterans Day 1966 (November 11th) another EC-121H crashed in approximately the same general area as the first one, by unexplained circumstances. This accident was about 125 miles east of Nantucket. All 19 crew members were killed and their bodies were never recovered.

On April 25, 1967, another EC-121H ditched in the North Atlantic approximately one mile off of Nantucket just after having taken off from Otis AFB. There was one survivor, and 15 crew members were lost. Only two bodies were reported by the Air Force as having been recovered. Colonel James P. Lyle, the Commander of the 551st AEW&C Wing to which all the aircraft and crew members were assigned, was piloting this plane when it crashed.

Colonel Lyle had been assigned to take over that command nine months earlier. It is sobering to note that it was he who presented each of the next of kin of the November 11, 1966, crash victims with the United States Flag during that memorial service. Then five months later Colonel Lyle met the same fate.

The EC-121H aircraft was phased out and the 551st Wing was deactivated on December

31, 1969. Later, Otis AFB was renamed Otis Air National Guard Base. Today at that base, Otis Memorial Park is dedicated to the 50 members of the crews of the three aircraft who lost their lives. With the exception of the remaining immediate family members of the flyers and some of the friends of the flyers, few remember these tragic events ever happened.

I admit that I never knew about these events until a constituent of mine from the Second Congressional District of Florida, Senior Master Sergeant A.J. Northup, USAF (Ret.), brought this to my attention. I would be remiss if I didn't recognize MSgt. Northup and his 30 years of service to our nation. He actually spent four years as an Airborne Radio Operator/Electronic Countermeasures Operator aboard the RC-121 at Otis AFB. I thank him for his service to our nation and for working to bring these events to light.

More than half a century ago, President Franklin Roosevelt reminded the American people that, "Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them." I hope that we as a nation, and each of us as individuals, will take to heart President Roosevelt's reminder that it is the sacred duty and great privilege of the living to honor and remember those who have died to protect the American ideals of freedom, democracy and liberty. The men and women who have died in service to America, and especially the 50 heroes aboard these fateful EC-121H flights, deserve no less.

THE DEATH OF MICHAEL P. MORTARA

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I wish to note the passing of an individual of considerable stature in the history of this nation's financial system, Michael P. Mortara. Mr. Mortara, who was the victim of an aneurysm last month, was instrumental in the creation of mortgage-backed securities, a market now valued at over \$2 trillion. By devising a means for banks to package and sell mortgage loans to the broader capital markets, he helped enlarge the pool of credit available to millions of middle and low income American families, making it possible for them to purchase their first homes at affordable mortgage rates. Asset securitization, as the technique that Mr. Mortara helped pioneer is called, is the primary tool Ginnie Mae, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have used to carry out their missions—the establishment and maintenance of a stable and fluid nationwide secondary mortgage market essential to widespread, affordable housing finance. This technique was also adapted with success by the Resolution Trust Company, saving American taxpayers millions of dollars, and it has served as a model for housing finance markets around the world.

In addition to his contribution to our country's economic well-being, Mr. Mortara was dedicated to the community in which he lived, the community in which he worked, as well as to his family—his wife Virginia and his two sons, Michael and Matthew. At his death, Mr.

Mortara was a senior member of the Wall Street firm Goldman Sachs. There and wherever he came into contact with them, he mentored and guided hundreds of young men and women throughout their careers. He served on many educational boards, including those of Georgetown University, The Taft School, Rumsey Hall School, and the Connecticut Junior Republic. Mr. Mortara was the embodiment of a free-enterprise minded American citizen—a proponent of free markets, education, and family values.

Mr. Speaker, what Mr. Mortara's life symbolizes is the mark an individual can make in the private sector that has positive ramifications for society as a whole. It is innovations in finance that have helped curb inflation and in the case of the secondary housing securities market made access to home ownership available to millions who would otherwise be precluded from participation in the American dream.

Mr. Mortara will be much missed by this family and colleagues and so many who never knew him but benefited from the innovations in finance that he pioneered.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP JAMES T. McHUGH

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today, a great man of God, a brilliant writer of homilies and incisive commentary, an extraordinary humanitarian, a courageous defender of human life, Bishop James T. McHugh—will be buried. After a long battle with cancer, Bishop McHugh passed away on December 10th. Consistent with how he lived his life, Bishop McHugh faced death like he faced life—with courage, dignity and an unwavering faith that inspires us all. Prior to his assignment at Rockville Center, Bishop McHugh served with dedication and effectiveness as Bishop of the Diocese of Camden, New Jersey, and area which borders my district.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege of knowing this holy man of God and calling him "friend" for over 25 years. By his words and extraordinary example, Bishop McHugh lived the Gospel of Jesus with unpretentious passion and humility. Bishop McHugh radiated Christ. He recognized evil and deceit in the world for what it was—yet he never ceased to proclaim reconciliation and renewal through Christ, the Sacraments and the Church. Clearly among the best, brightest and most wise, Bishop McHugh nevertheless was humble and soft spoken. His courage to press on against any and all odds was without peer. He was a spiritual giant, and we will miss him dearly.

A graduate of Seton Hall University and the Immaculate Conception Seminary in Darlington, New Jersey, Bishop McHugh began his service to the church early in life. Ordained in 1957, Bishop McHugh's impact has been felt in countless ways. His constant and unyielding defense of the unborn will serve as a pillar of strength to all of us who carry on the fight for life. At the time of his death, Bishop McHugh was a member of the US Bishop's Committee on Pro-Life Activities as well as a consultant to the Pontifical Council on

the Family. His dedication to the pro-life movement knew no bounds, and his representation of the Vatican at international meetings and at the United Nations on population control and pro-life matters served as not only an inspiration for myself, but upheld the convictions and beliefs of the Church and believers worldwide.

Bishop McHugh's courage and convictions could not have been more evident than just recently, when he ordered that no public officials or candidates who supported abortion be permitted to appear at Catholic parishes. Although Bishop McHugh was criticized by the media, he was upheld in high esteem among those of us who hold that all human life is precious. Bishop McHugh held strong to clear Christian teaching on the sanctity of human life and the duty of all men and women of goodwill, especially politicians, to protect the vulnerable from the violence of abortion.

Early in his career, Bishop McHugh worked on staff of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and was named director of the Division for Family Life in 1967 and director of the bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life activities in 1972. Bishop McHugh did advanced theological studies at the Angelicum in Rome and earned his doctorate in sacred theology in 1981.

Bishop McHugh must be commended for this outstanding work as Vatican delegate to numerous international conferences, including the 1974 International Conference on Population in Bucharest, Romania, the 1980 UN World Conference on Women in Copenhagen, Denmark; the 1984 UN World Population Conference in Mexico City; the 1990 World Summit for Children in New York; the 1992 International Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, Egypt.

HONORING OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. WES WATKINS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, these are momentous days for academic excellence at Oklahoma State University. Last week, Oklahoma State University (OSU) received national recognition for its outstanding record in producing world-class scholars and leaders.

OSU celebrated being named a Truman Scholarship Honor Institution—an award bestowed on only five universities in the nation this year. OSU is one of only 37 universities in the nation to have ever received this distinction. No other Oklahoma university has ever received the honor. This year's other award recipients are the University of Texas, the University of Kansas, the University of Minnesota, and Willamette University.

The Truman Scholarship Honor Institution award recognizes colleges and universities that have developed a long history of producing outstanding student scholars and leaders. The award specifically recognized OSU for: Exemplary participation in the Truman Scholarship program—six Truman Scholars in the last seven years. Active encouragement of outstanding young people to pursue careers in public service. Special attention to helping the