

During this tour he earned a coveted Shellback certificate for crossing the equator. He then reported as Chief Engineer on board USS *Bennet* (DD 801) where he earned his first of three Navy Commendation Medals.

Several sea tours followed in steady progression. He was Executive Officer in USS *Dupont* (DD 941). He also was Executive Officer in USS *Sierra* (AD 18). He served as commissioning Commanding Officer of USS *Nicholas* (FFG 47) and Commanding Officer of USS *Samuel Gompers* (AD 37). It is difficult to convey the challenges and hardships that were faced by this officer and his family during these many and arduous sea tours.

As Vice Admiral Amerault progressed in the Navy he served as Staff Combat Information Center Officer for Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group TWO; and commanded Destroyer Squadron SIX, Amphibious Group FOUR, and the Western Hemisphere Group. Again, these were all difficult tours of tremendous responsibility that required an incredible commitment to duty and country.

Vice Admiral Amerault's shore assignments have included Director, Navy Program Resource Appraisal Division and Executive Assistant to the Director, Surface Warfare Division on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations.

His flag assignments have included Director, Operations Division, Office of Budget and Reports, Navy Comptroller; Director, Office of Navy Budget; and Director, Fiscal Management Division in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

His final tour in the Navy as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Fleet Readiness and Logistics) has demonstrated his brilliant logistics acumen. With dynamic leadership he has refocused the Navy's logistics systems to more accurately meet the needs of the war fighter and the Navy of the future.

A scholar as well, VADM Amerault is a graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School (MS Operations Research) and the University of Utah (MA Middle East Affairs and Arabic), and was the Navy's 1986-87 Federal Executive Fellow at the RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, California.

As he ascended to the highest echelons of leadership in the Navy, Vice Admiral Amerault garnered many commendations that further highlight his stellar career. They include the Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit (seven awards); the Bronze Star with V; the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards); the Joint Service Commendation Medal; the Navy Commendation Medal (three awards); and Vietnam, Desert Storm, and numerous other campaign medals.

Vice Admiral Amerault also has the distinction of being the Navy's "Old Salt"—the active duty officer who has been qualified as an officer of the deck underway the longest.

Standing beside this officer throughout his superb career has been his wife

Cathy, a lady to whom he owes much. She has been his key supporter, devoting her life to her husband, to her family, and to the men and women of the Navy family. She has traveled by his side for these many years. They are the epitome of the Navy family team.

From the start of his career at the Naval Academy, through Vietnam, the Gulf War, Kosovo and beyond—thirty-six years—Vice Admiral Amerault has served with uncommon valor. He is indeed an individual of rare character and professionalism—a true Sailor's Sailor! I am proud, Mr. President, to thank him on behalf of the United States of America for his honorable and most distinguished career in the United States Navy, and to wish him "fair winds and following seas".

RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEER REFEREES FOR THE 2001 SIGMA NU CHARITY BOWL

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, recently the Epsilon Xi Chapter of Sigma Nu at the University of Mississippi celebrated the eleventh anniversary of the Charity Bowl in Oxford, Mississippi. Founded in 1989, the Sigma Nu Charity Bowl has helped many unfortunate men and women, who from accidents or injuries have been permanently paralyzed. Since 1990, over \$500,000 has been raised to help these individuals.

Throughout the years, the Epsilon Xi Sigma Nu Charity Bowl has become one of the largest college philanthropy events in the nation. Every year, Sigma Nu competes in a football game against another fraternity from Ole Miss or another university. It has become an annual event that the citizens of Oxford, the parents of the players, and the Ole Miss community enjoy each year. This year's recipient was a very deserving young man named James Havard, who enjoyed watching Sigma Nu defeat Phi Delta Theta 18-13.

I would like to recognize some very special men who generously gave their time and talents in order to make the Charity Bowl a great success. Steve Freeman, Michael Miles, Kevin Roberts, Scott Steenson, and Michael Woodard are to be commended and honored for their efforts in serving as volunteer referees for the charity bowl football game. They graciously took time out of their busy schedules in order to make the game more enjoyable for the players and the fans, but more importantly they gave James Havard an opportunity to enjoy a better life.

These men belong to the Professional Football Referees Association Charities, PFRA. The PFRA is also very involved in helping out other charitable organizations such as the Make-A-Wish Foundation. This distinguished organization has been very helpful in getting aid to individuals like James, and they have given many people a chance to have a better life.

These men and the PFRA are to be commended for a job well done, and for

their continued efforts in improving the lives of others.

THE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, one of the most significant accomplishments of the 106th Congress was the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, commonly known as "ESIGN." This landmark legislation establishes a Federal framework for the use of electronic signatures, contracts, and records, while preserving essential safeguards protecting the Nation's consumers. It passed both houses of Congress by an overwhelming majority, and went into effect in October 2000.

I helped to craft the Senate version of the bill, which passed unanimously in November 1999, and I was honored to serve as a conferee and help develop the conference report. I am proud of what we achieved and the bipartisan manner in which we achieved it. It was an example of legislators legislating rather than politicians posturing and unnecessarily politicizing important matters of public policy.

Much of the negotiations over ESIGN concerned the consumer protection language in section 101(c), which was designed to ensure effective consumer consent to the replacement of paper notices with electronic notices. We managed in the end to strike a constructive balance that advanced electronic commerce without terminating or mangling the basic rights of consumers.

In particular, ESIGN requires use of a "technological check" in obtaining consumer consent. The critical language, which Senator WYDEN and I developed and proposed, provides that a consumer's consent to the provision of information in electronic form must involve a demonstration that the consumer can actually receive and read the information. Companies are left with ample flexibility to develop their own procedures for this demonstration.

When the Senate passed ESIGN in June 2000, I expressed confidence that the benefits of a one-time technological check would far outweigh any possible burden on e-commerce. I also predicted that this provision would increase consumer confidence in the electronic marketplace.

One year later, the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Commerce have issued a report on the impact of ESIGN's consumer consent provision. In preparing the report, these agencies conducted extensive outreach to the on-line business community, technology developers, consumer groups, law enforcement, and academia. The report concludes:

[T]hus far, the benefits of the consumer consent provision of ESIGN outweigh the burdens of its implementation on electronic commerce. The provision facilitates e-commerce and the use of electronic records and

signatures while enhancing consumer confidence. It preserves the right of consumers to receive written information required by state and federal law. The provision also discourages deception and fraud by those who might fail to provide consumers with information the law requires that they receive."

Significantly, the consumer consent provision is benefitting businesses as well as consumers. The report states that businesses that have implemented this provision are reporting several benefits, including "protection from liability, increased revenues resulting from increased consumer confidence, and the opportunity to engage in additional dialogue with consumers about the transactions." The technological check has not been significantly burdensome, and "[t]he technology-neutral language of the provision encourages creativity in the structure of business systems that interface with consumers, and provides an opportunity for the business and the consumer to choose the form of communication for the transaction."

The report also finds that ESIGN's consumer safeguards are helping to prevent deception and fraud, which is critical to maintaining consumer confidence in the electronic marketplace.

ESIGN is a product of bipartisan cooperation, and it is working well for the country. We should learn from experience as we take up new legislative challenges.

IN MEMORY OF OLIVER POWERS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I rise today to inform my colleagues of the passing of Oliver Bennett Powers a Senior Broadcast Engineering Technician for the Senate, and native of Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Oliver passed away suddenly while vacationing with friends and family near Norfolk, Virginia on June 23, 2001. He was a respected, well-liked, and dedicated member of the Senate Recording Studio staff. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Anita; two sons, Isaiah and Lucas; his mother, Ella Belle Powers of Chickasha, Oklahoma, and brother, Roy Powers, of Norman. Our hearts go out to them.

Oliver was a native of Chickasha, Oklahoma, where he graduated from high school in 1971. He was also a graduate of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, also located in Chickasha, and went on to earn a Master's Degree in Journalism from the University of Oklahoma. Oliver began his service to the U.S. Senate in 1986, when he became director of audio and lighting for the Senate.

Oliver will be missed by all of those who knew him through his community, his church, and his work here in the Senate. Oliver embodied the best of what we've come to expect from Oklahomans. He was hard working, yet soft-spoken and gentle; highly professional, yet humble, and always kind and respectful to others. He was representative of so many staff here that work tirelessly and anonymously on behalf of the Senate.

On behalf of the United States Senate, let me say thank you to Anita, Isa-

iah, Lucas and the other members of the Powers family for sharing him with us these many years. He will be missed.

EXTRADITION OF SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC TO THE U.N. ICTY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the authorities of Serbia for, at long last, handing over Slobodan Milosevic to the International Criminal Tribunal. It is ironic, and perhaps fitting, that his arrest and transfer to the international court took place on June 28—one of the most noted dates in Serb history, when in 1389 the Serbs were defeated at the battle of Kosovo Polje, ushering in a period of Ottoman Turkish rule. It is my hope that future generations of Serbs will remember June 28, 2001 with the same sense of historic importance and as the beginning of true and long-lasting democracy and respect for the rule of law.

Mr. Milosevic has been charged by an independent, impartial, international criminal tribunal with crimes against humanity and violations of the laws or customs of war against the ethnic Albanian population of Kosovo. And according to the Prosecutor of the Tribunal, we can expect more indictments against him for earlier crimes in Croatia and Bosnia.

His extradition to the Hague is historic, if long overdue. As a former head of state, there were many who believed that he would never be made to answer for the charges against him. That this day finally came underscores the commitment of the international community to investigating and prosecuting individuals for war crimes. And it sets an important precedent in international law; namely, that the Geneva Conventions and their Protocols will be upheld and enforced regardless of one's position or influence. The message in all of this is clear and inspiring: with patience and perseverance, democracy and the rule of law will prevail.

Serbian Prime Minister Djindjic deserves praise for his leadership on this issue and for recognizing that if Serbia wants to join the democratic family of nations, then it must uphold and respect the rule of law. Many others have contributed their efforts over the years leading up to this historic day and deserve mention: former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, U.S. Ambassador-at-large for War Crimes, David Scheffer, and ICTY Prosecutors Justice Louise Arbour and Carla Del Ponte, to name just a few.

The wars that tore apart the former Yugoslavia—and which threaten Macedonia today—were largely, although not exclusively, of Mr. Milosevic's doing. He fomented extreme ethnic nationalism and unleashed his army and special police forces on the civilian populations of Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo. Millions of people were driven from their homes and more than a quarter of a million are believed to have died. For his policies he earned himself the name, "the Butcher of Belgrade." His victims deserve account-

ability and his former citizens deserve to know what was done in their name.

It must be stressed that the Serb people are not on trial; only Mr. Milosevic. The United States seeks friendship and partnership with all of the people of the former Yugoslavia. Our presence and contributions at the donor's conference are evidence of our intentions.

Yet while we welcome yesterday's developments, we must also not forget that 26 accused remain on the run, most of them in Bosnia and Serbia. I call on the accused to turn themselves over to the jurisdiction of the Tribunal to answer the charges against them without further delay. It is the honorable thing to do. But failing this, the local authorities must take swift and decisive action, if necessary with the support of international peacekeeping troops, to deliver these fugitives from justice to the court in the Hague. There will never be long-lasting peace and stability in the region so long as these individuals remain on the run. The fact that they have evaded justice for so long—in the case of Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic it's already six years—makes a mockery of justice and it must end.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred November 6, 1998 in Seattle, Washington. A gay man was severely beaten with rocks and broken bottles in his neighborhood by a gang of youths shouting "faggot." The victim sustained a broken nose and swollen jaw. When he reported the incident to police two days later, the officer refused to take the report.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

CELEBRATION OF CAPE VERDE INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to join Cape Verdeans in the July 5th celebration of Cape Verde Independence Day.

Every country is rich with its own history and unique story of how it achieved democracy, and Cape Verde is no exception. In 1462, Portuguese settlers arrived at Santiago and founded