

Extra Terrestrial" and "Schindler's List."

Without question Lew Wasserman was one of the most powerful and influential people in the entertainment industry, and his presence and leadership will be truly missed.

I am certain that his memory and good works will live on and continue to touch and improve the lives of people everywhere.

To list Lew's accomplishments does not come near to his contributions to our great nation.

Although Lew was unable to afford college, he was inspired to donate millions of dollars for undergraduate scholarships at UCLA. Indeed, few people have been as big-hearted and giving as Lew and his wife Edie.

Together they have given millions of dollars to a myriad of philanthropic causes including the Motion Picture & Television Hospital in Woodland Hills.

Lew was instrumental in building the Dorothy Chandler Music Center in Los Angeles and served as a trustee of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the California Institute of Technology.

I know that the Wasserman family will continue the legacy of philanthropic giving.

Lew also was very active in the foundation, Research to Prevent Blindness for which he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the country's highest civilian honor, by former President Clinton.

Throughout his distinguished career, Lew was often called upon by important leaders in our country including former Presidents Clinton, Reagan, Carter and Lyndon B. Johnson, who wanted him as his Secretary of Commerce.

Despite his retirement, Lew was a man of tireless energy. He was an avid and effective mediator during the labor tensions last year, when major studios were negotiating with writers and actors, Lew privately advised both sides to compromise, avoiding a strike that could have potentially paralyzed the economy of California.

Simply put Lew Wasserman was a great American. His legacy is one of inspiring leadership and extraordinary accomplishment.

I am proud to say Lew was a loyal and good friend. Lew set a high standard and his passing has left an enormous void to fill.

I know the next few weeks and months will be difficult for Edie and the rest of the Wasserman family. But as they grieve, I hope they find comfort in knowing what a wonderful contribution Lew made to the world around him.●

HOUSTON DIGITAL BROADCAST

● Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the city of Houston on its recent designation as a "Digital Television Zone." Viewers in Houston are fortunate to be served by

local television stations that are broadcasting in digital. These stations are: KPRC, the NBC affiliate; KHOU, the CBS affiliate; KRIV, the local FOX station; KTRK, the local ABC owned and operated station; KTXH, a FOX owned UPN affiliate; and KUHT, the local PBS station.

I would like to especially note KPRC, a Post-Newsweek owned NBC affiliate, where I had the privilege to work in a former life as a journalist.

As the broadcast industry undertakes its transition to digital television, I am proud to say all these local Houston stations are already fully on the air in digital. For those not familiar with digital television, it is the next step in the evolution of television. Just as other communication mediums are moving from an analog to a digital format, television is too.

This year, coverage of the Olympics' opening ceremonies and the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship was broadcast in High-definition digital television. Today, Houston viewers can watch popular programs like "Drew Carey," "NYPD Blue," and "the Tonight Show" in High Definition TV. Programming like this will propel the transition forward and encourage consumers to invest in digital technology—like their local broadcasters have done already.

In January, as one of only three cities in the country with all affiliates on the air in digital, Houston earned the distinction of being designated a "Digital TV Zone." Houston broadcasters pooled their resources over the past year to educate Houston consumers about digital TV technology and its benefits. The local stations cooperated with electronics manufacturers and retailers to post digital sets in high traffic areas throughout the city.

Houston broadcasters are doing their part to launch the digital television future. As with other technological advances, there will be challenges before consumers can fully benefit from everything digital TV offers. There are issues about making digital television sets capable of communicating with digital VCRs and DVD players. There are questions about the availability of digital tuners in new TV sets. Importantly, American consumers will need to embrace digital television. Despite these remaining questions, I am proud to say that Houston broadcasters are ready for the digital future.●

DEFENDING THE 939TH AIR RESCUE WING

● Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce an amendment with Senator WYDEN to preserve a truly invaluable search and rescue capability in the Pacific Northwest.

On May 30, all eyes in Oregon and across the Nation watched as brave Oregonians put themselves in harms way to rescue climbers on Mt. Hood. The rescuers included members of the Oregon National Guard, the Portland

Mountain Rescue, and the Air Force Reserve 939th Air Rescue Wing, whose members have been lauded for scores of rescues on Mt. Hood and the Oregon Coast, not to mention rescues in our neighboring state of Washington.

Last week, nine climbers were swept into a 20-foot deep crevasse on Mt. Hood. Tragically three of the climbers did not survive, but the skills of the rescuers ensured that others would survive. The rescue last week highlighted the skills of the Rescue Wing and the importance Oregonians placed on the Wing's capabilities in the region. While adverse wind conditions most likely sent one of the helicopters into an inevitable crash, the highly skilled pilot of the 939th ensured that the crew survived and that all on the ground were unharmed.

This happened just one week after the 939th rescued a sick climber from Mt. Hood's Sandy Glacier. I believe this rescue highlights the Wing's capabilities. Late in the evening, the 304th Rescue Squadron used its night vision capabilities to spot the climber at an elevation of 8,750 feet. The Pave Hawk, equipped with a hoist, lowered down Steve Rollins of Portland Mountain Rescue onto the Glacier to assess the climber. After being secured to the hoist, the climber and rescuer were raised into the helicopter and transported to safety.

Oregonians were devastated to hear of Air Force plans to take away the 939th Search and Rescue Wing out of the State to move it to Florida.

Oregonians realize that the 939th's mission is to rescue our brave men in combat. In fact, we believe that the members of the 939th are among the very best trained in the Nation. We know this because we know the Oregon terrain and we have witnessed firsthand their skill under most challenging conditions.

The decision to move the 939th came about in December 2000—ten months prior to a day that has changed our understanding of national security and defense needs. We have been at war since September 11. We need to keep the highly trained combat search and rescuers who are ready to serve at a moment's notice. A new active duty wing would neither be ready today nor tomorrow, not next week nor next month. It would take two years to stand up a new active duty rescue wing. We not only need assets in places abroad where al Qaeda members train, but we need a capability at home to support homeland security needs.

I have not seen enough evidence to make me believe that changing the mission of a CSAR Wing would be advantageous to the United States in wartime.

In the wake of September 11, the President established the White House Office of Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Council to ensure that our Federal response and protection efforts are coordinated and effective. The President also directed

Homeland Security Advisor Tom Ridge to determine if the current government structure allows us to meet the threats of today while anticipating the unknown threats of tomorrow. I question why the Air Force has not done the same.

I understand that my original amendment was not considered germane. This amendment would have prevented any funds from being made available for this conversion. The amendment the managers accepted requires the Secretary of the Air Force to certify that a comparable search and rescue capability is available in the 939th Combat Search and Rescue Wing's area of responsibility and that any new aircraft assigned to the unit will comply with local environmental and noise standards, and that the Air Force has developed a plan for the transition of personnel currently assigned to the unit.

I appreciate the assistance from Senators STEVENS, INOUE, and BYRD and look forward to working with them on this important issue.

Let me close by illustrating why this is so important to me and all Oregonians. The pioneer spirit of the Oregon Trail did not end with the settlement of the valleys of Oregon. That spirit and bravery is very much still alive in my state. But Oregonians cannot go any further west. They can only go up, into the skies and into the mountains. It is there that the modern-day pioneers meet with both triumph and tragedy, and their lessons are learned.

The lessons of last week on Mt. Hood are harsh ones that remind us of human frailty and the unbending forces of nature. Not unlike the tragic events of the last year, what I saw in the recovery on Mt. Hood also illustrates the bravery and compassion inherent in us all, and I want that spirit to continue in Oregon.

This is the spirit that is the bedrock of America's Armed Forces. It is clear to me that removing the 939th from Oregon would truly be a tragedy without a lesson.●

THE RETIREMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL HAROLD TIMBOE, USA

● Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize an American who has honorably served our Nation for 34 years—Major General Harold L. Timboe, United States Army Medical Corps, Commanding General, North Atlantic Regional Medical Command and Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

A native of Long Beach, CA, General Timboe attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1968. He started his Army career as an Air Defense Artillery officer with assignments in Saudi Arabia and Vietnam. Following graduation from the University of Texas Medical School in 1978 and his residency, Major General Timboe served

with distinction in a variety of leadership and executive positions including the following: Corps Surgeon, XVIII Airborne Corps, Operation Desert Storm; Commanding General, 44th Medical Brigade, Fort Bragg, NC; Commanding General, Great Plains Regional Medical Command, Fort Sam Houston, TX; culminating as the Lead Agent, TRICARE Northeast, Region 1, headquartered at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

In his most recent position Major General Timboe directed the integration of the National Capital Area Composite Health Care System across the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard services, which includes 77 work centers between National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Malcom Grow Medical Center, Walter Reed Army Medical Center and their 41 Satellite facilities. Through his distinctive accomplishments, Major General Timboe reflected great credit upon himself, the United States Army, and the Department of Defense.

General Timboe's accomplishments and service have been recognized in numerous military awards. He has been awarded the Legion of Merit with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Expert Field Medical Badge, Flight Surgeon Badge, U.S., British, and German Parachutist Badges, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

Major General Timboe and his wife Donna are to be commended for their dedication and contribution to our Nation. Major General Timboe's service to his country has been exemplary and in the finest traditions of the United States Army. I extend my appreciation to General Timboe, and congratulate him as he retires from his distinguished military career. I wish him and his family well in their future endeavors as they enter a new phase of their lives in Texas.●

TRIBUTE TO CLARENCE B. CRAFT

● Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, it is with great pride, but with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to one of America's greatest heroes and fellow Arkansan, Clarence B. Craft. Mr. Craft passed away on March 28, 2002, but left behind a legacy of kindness and courage. Though he was born in California, he spent the last twenty-five years of his life in northwest Arkansas giving selflessly of his time as a volunteer for the Veterans' Affairs Medical Center in Fayetteville. He will be remembered as a true and dedicated friend to the veterans, one who lifted their spirits with personal visits, often visiting every patient in the hospital.

After his passing, those who knew him characterized Clarence as a "special man."

Clarence Craft was an extremely humble person, and rarely talked about the accolades that made this great American truly special. On May 31, 1945, then-Private First Class Craft faced a numerically superior Japanese force on the island of Okinawa. PFC Craft's one-man attack against a Japanese defense that had repelled repeated, heavy assaults by battalion-sized U.S. formations for 12 days, resulted in the entire defensive line crumbling. For these heroic acts Clarence Craft was recognized with our nation's highest award for actions above and beyond the call of duty, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Let the record show on behalf of a grateful nation, that the U.S. Senate pays tribute to Clarence B. Craft, an American hero. He will be sorely missed.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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 appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

NINTH BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE INTERAGENCY ARCTIC RESEARCH POLICY COMMITTEE FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2000 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2002—PM 89

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 Government Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 108(b) of Public Law 98-373 (15 U.S.C. 4107(b)), I transmit herewith the Ninth Biennial Report of the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (February 1, 2000, to January 31, 2002).

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 6, 2002.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2001—PM 90

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 Commerce, Science, and Transportation: