

Dr. Chawla was a member of the West Valley Flying Club in Palo Alto who loved doing aerial acrobatics over the Bay Area.

She leaves behind her husband.

COL Ilan Ramon was a bona fide combat hero in Israel, flying missions in the Yom Kippur War in 1973, and the Lebanon war in 1982.

In recent days, he lifted the spirits of his country, becoming a national hero as the first Israeli in space.

As a pilot, Colonel Ramon clocked more than 4,000 hours in combat aircraft, and was an F-16 squadron commander.

Aboard the *Columbia*, one of Ramon's scientific experiments involved tracking sandstorms in the Sahara Desert, and studying their impact on climate and environment.

He leaves behind his wife and four children.

Each of the astronauts knew the risks involved in space flight. But they took those risks willingly in order to follow their dreams, knowing that their mission was a noble one of science and discovery.

What remains for us, as a nation, is to determine the cause of this tragedy, make adjustments so that it will not happen again, and continue the exploration of space.

NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe has already assigned several internal units to investigate the loss of the *Columbia*, including a "Mishap Response Team" and a "Contingency Action Team."

In addition, Administrator O'Keefe announced the formation of an independent board led by Harold W. Gehman, who cochaired the probe of the October 2000 terrorist attack on the USS *Cole* in Yemen.

I think that the way NASA has acted in the past few days is a marked improvement to the way the investigation into the 1986 *Challenger* explosion was handled.

Information has been disseminated quickly, which gives me hope that a fair and prompt investigation will yield the causes for the loss of the *Columbia*.

The space program must continue. The American legacy is filled with stories of exploration, and the desire to push new frontiers to the limit.

There is so much to learn from space. This tragedy will not stifle the desire to acquire all the potential knowledge we could gain as a country, and as a planet, from exploration beyond Earth.

The risks, however, will always be present. In a way, space exploration means continually breaking new ground, and taking those risks.

The hardest part of these losses, is the human loss. The astronauts aboard the *Columbia* were men and women at their prime. They put their hearts and souls into this mission, were the best and brightest of their peers, and still this catastrophe befell them.

My heart goes out to the families that the crew of the Space Shuttle *Columbia*

left behind. As we search for the reasons this tragedy occurred, it cannot be forgotten that each member was a son or daughter, a mother or father, a brother or sister, a dear friend. The thoughts and prayers of the American people, and of the world, are with them as they endure the pain of this loss.

The crew of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* embodied the human desire to explore, to reach, and to dream. Their courage, idealism, and enthusiasm for discovery are hallmarks of the American spirit which should be remembered and celebrated, even as we grieve their loss.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, twice now we have witnessed the horror of vapor trails separating in the sky.

Twice now we have gazed in shock at photographs of the optimistic faces of seven young heroes, captured as they stood at the brink of one of mankind's greatest adventures.

Twice now we have endured the loss of a space shuttle and its valiant crew: First, *Challenger* on January 28, 1986, at the start of a landmark voyage dedicated to teaching a new generation about space. Now, 17 years and 4 days later, *Columbia* on February 1, 2003, at the conclusion of a successful scientific mission.

Both incidents remind us that space exploration is fraught with risk, but also with limitless possibility. Even as we mourn the loss of *Columbia's* crew of seven brave heroes, including the first astronaut from Israel, we must rededicate ourselves to continuing to pursue knowledge of the heavens and the benefits we derive from our research.

We in Florida feel the losses most intensely. My State is home to the Kennedy Space Center and thousands of the dedicated professionals who work for NASA as well as its contractors. Floridians consider ourselves part of the special family that makes up the space program. We launched the *Columbia* on its 16-day mission, and we were ready to welcome her crew home.

Now, Floridians are firm in our belief that, just as we did in the 1980s, we must fully explore the causes of Saturday's disaster. We must identify what went wrong and fix it. We must ensure the safety of the remaining three orbiters and future astronauts.

But then we recommit ourselves to returning to space, to resuming launches, to continuing to build the International Space Station, and to forging ahead with missions to Mars and other planets.

We are already hearing cautious voices calling for spacecraft to be piloted by robots, or even insisting that no new money be spent on space. I say that is wrong. On May 25, 1961, when President John F. Kennedy declared it a national goal to land a man on the Moon, he did so with these words: "If we are to go only half way, or reduce our sights in the face of difficulty, in

my judgment it would be better not to go at all."

In the spirit of John Glenn, Neil Armstrong, and our other space pioneers, astronauts must once again be sent soaring through the Earth's atmosphere to explore and discover. ●

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, Senate Standing Rule XXVI requires each committee to adopt rules to govern the procedures of that committee and to publish those rules in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD not later than March 1 of the first year of each Congress. On January 29, 2003, the Committee on Indian Affairs held a business meeting during which the members of the committee unanimously adopted rules to govern the procedures of the Committee. Consistent with Standing Rule XXVI, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a copy of the Rules of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Rule 1. The Standing Rules of the Senate, Senate Resolution 4, and the provisions of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970, to the extent the provisions of such Act are applicable to the Committee on Indian Affairs and supplemented by these rules, are adopted as the rules of the Committee.

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 2. The Committee shall meet on the first Tuesday of each month while the Congress is in session for the purpose of conducting business, unless for the convenience of the Members, the Chairman shall set some other day for a meeting. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman as he may deem necessary.

OPEN HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

Rule 3. Hearings and business meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public except when the Chairman by a majority vote orders a closed hearing or meeting.

HEARING PROCEDURE

Rule 4(a). Public notice shall be given of the date, place and subject matter of any hearing to be held by the Committee at least one week in advance of such hearing unless the Chairman of the Committee determines that the hearing is noncontroversial or that special circumstances require expedited procedures and a majority of the Committee involved concurs. In no case shall a hearing be conducted with less than 24 hours notice.

(b). Each witness who is to appear before the Committee shall file with the Committee, at least 72 hours in advance of the hearing, an original, printed version of his or her written testimony. In addition, each witness shall provide an electronic copy of the

testimony on a computer disk formatted and suitable for use by the Committee. Further, each witness is required to submit by way of electronic mail, one copy of his or her testimony in a format determined by the Committee and sent to an electronic mail address specified by the Committee.

(c). Each member shall be limited to five (5) minutes in questioning of any witness until such times as all Members who so desire have had an opportunity to question the witness unless the Committee shall decide otherwise.

(d). The Chairman and Vice Chairman or the ranking Majority and Minority Members present at the hearing may each appoint one Committee staff member to question each witness. Such staff member may question the witness only after all Members present have completed their questioning of the witness or at such time as the Chairman and Vice Chairman or the Ranking Majority and Minority Members present may agree.

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Rule 5(a). A legislative measure or subject shall be included in the agenda of the next following business meeting of the Committee if a written request by a Member for such information has been filed with the Chairman of the Committee at least one week prior to such meeting. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to limit the authority of the Chairman of the Committee to include legislative measures or subject on the Committee agenda in the absence of such request.

(b). Notice of, and the agenda for, any business meeting of the Committee shall be provided to each Member and made available to the public at least two days prior to such meeting, and no new items may be added after the agenda is published except by the approval of a majority of the Members of the Committee. The Clerk shall promptly notify absent members of any action taken by the Committee on matters not included in the published agenda.

QUORUM

Rule 6(a). Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), eight (8) Members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business of the Committee. Consistent with Senate rules, a quorum is presumed to be present unless the absence of a quorum is noted by a Member.

(b). A measure may be ordered reported from the Committee unless an objection is made by a Member, in which case a recorded vote of the Members shall be required.

(c). One Member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing or taking testimony on any measure before the Committee.

VOTING

Rule 7(a). A Recorded vote of the Members shall be taken upon the request of any Member.

(b). Proxy voting shall be permitted on all matters, except that proxies may not be counted for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum. Unless further limited, a proxy shall be exercised only for the date for which it is given and upon the terms published in the agenda for that date.

SWORN TESTIMONY AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rule 8. Witnesses in Committee hearings may be required to give testimony under oath whenever the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee deems it to be necessary. At any hearing to confirm a Presidential nomination, the testimony of the nominee, and at the request of any Member, any other witness, shall be under oath.

Every nominee shall submit a financial statement, on forms to be perfected by the Committee, which shall be sworn to by the nominee as to its completeness and accu-

racy. All such statements shall be made public by the Committee unless the Committee, in executive session, determines that special circumstances require a full or partial exception to this rule. Members of the Committee are urged to make public a complete disclosure of their financial interests on forms to be perfected by the Committee in the manner required in the case of Presidential nominees.

CONFIDENTIAL TESTIMONY

Rule 9. No confidential testimony taken by, or confidential material presented to the Committee or any report of the proceedings of a closed Committee hearing or business meeting shall be made public in whole or in part by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of the Members of the Committee at a business meeting called for the purpose of making such a determination.

DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS

Rule 10. Any person whose name is mentioned or who is specifically identified in, or who believes that testimony or other evidence presented at, an open Committee hearing tends to defame him or her or otherwise adversely affect his or her reputation may file with the Committee for its consideration and action a sworn statement of facts relevant to such testimony of evidence.

BROADCASTING OR HEARINGS OR MEETINGS

Rule 11. Any meeting or hearing by the Committee which is open to the public may be covered in whole or in part by television, radio broadcast, or still photography. Photographers and reporters using mechanical recording, filming, or broadcasting devices shall position their equipment so as not to interfere with the sight, vision, and hearing of Members and staff on the dais or with the orderly process of the meeting or hearing.

AMENDING THE RULES

Rule 12. These rules may be amended only by a vote of a majority of all the Members of the Committee in a business meeting of the Committee; Provided, that no vote may be taken on any proposed amendment unless such amendment is reproduced in full in the Committee agenda for such meeting at least seven (7) days in advance of such meeting.

.50 CALIBER SNIPER RIFLES

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, last week the Violence Policy Center released a report entitled "Just Like Bird Hunting: The Threat to Civil Aviation From .50 Caliber Sniper Rifles." This report discusses the range and power of the .50 caliber sniper rifle and its ammunition, and highlights the potential threat this weapon poses to airports and aircraft. The idea that terrorists can legally obtain these weapons should shake us up and force us to act immediately.

The .50 caliber sniper rifle is among the most powerful weapons legally available. According to the VPC's report, a .50 caliber sniper rifle is capable of accurately hitting a target over a thousand yards away and the ammunition available for the .50 caliber includes armor-piercing, incendiary and explosive bullets. The report also cites the U.S. Army's manual on urban combat which states that .50 caliber sniper rifles are designed to attack bulk fuel tanks and other high-value targets from a distance, using "their ability to break through all but the thickest shielding material."

One of the most disturbing parts of the report comes from the leading

manufacturer of .50 caliber sniper rifles, Barrett Firearms. According to the VPC report, a brochure advertising the .50 caliber sniper rifle states, "The cost-effectiveness of the Model 82A1 cannot be overemphasized when a round of ammunition purchased for less than 10USD—U.S. Dollars—can be used to destroy or disable a modern jet aircraft."

I believe the easy availability and the increased popularity of the .50 caliber sniper rifle poses a danger to homeland security, as well as airline safety. That's why last year I cosponsored Senator FEINSTEIN's Military Sniper Weapon Regulation Act. This bill would change the way .50 caliber guns are regulated by placing them under the requirements of the National Firearms Act. This would subject these weapons to the same regimen of registration and background checks as other weapons of war, such as machine guns. This is a necessary step to assuring the safety of Americans.

The .50 caliber sniper rifle is among the most powerful, and least regulated, firearms legally available. Tighter regulation is needed. If Senator FEINSTEIN's bill is reintroduced, I urge my colleagues to support it.

IN HONOR OF DR. F. MARIAN BISHOP

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay special tribute to a wonderful Utah doctor, F. Marian Bishop, Ph.D., M.S.P.H, who has dedicated her life to the practice of family medicine. Her shining example of service and dedication to the health and well being of people across America is truly extraordinary.

Dr. Bishop was recently named the recipient of the John G. Walsh Award by the American Academy of Family Physicians, AFP, because of her dedicated, long-term commitment to furthering the development of family practice. This award is one of the highest honors presented by the Academy.

In addition, Dr. Bishop has also received the United States Public Health Service Director's Award from the National Health Service Corps in 1990; the 2001 Women Who Make A Difference Award from the International Women's Forum; and in 2000 the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, STFM, Foundation created the F. Marian Bishop Scholars program to benefit future students.

Dr. Bishop is currently a professor and chairman emeritus of the Department of Family and Preventative Medicine at the University of Utah. The knowledge and enthusiasm she has shared with countless students have been felt by many and have helped provide the impetus for many future family practitioners.

Dr. Bishop is a tireless advocate for the development of family practice and has served in many positions to further promote this wonderful field of medicine. She has assumed leadership positions for the Department of Health and