

Civil Service Retirement

4 MAY 1983

OGC 83-03628

STAT MEMORANDUM FOR:
 Deputy Director of Personnel

STAT THROUGH: ✓
 Chief, Legislation Division

STAT FROM:
 Legislation Division

SUBJECT: H.R. 2449

1. Attached for your information is a copy of H.R. 2449, introduced 7 April by Representative Patricia Schroeder (D., CO). Also attached is her introductory floor statement. The bill would block the latest regulatory proposals issued by OPM on 30 March which deal with RIFs, with-in-grade pay increases, labor-management bargaining, and overtime pay. While no action has been taken so far on this bill by the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, it does give a flavor for the disposition of many on the Hill towards Dr. Devine and his proposals.

32

STAT

Attachments

(OGC:KAD:maw)

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✓ 1 - LED File: Civil Service Retirement (98th)

28 APR 1983

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98TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2449

To prohibit the implementation of certain regulations proposed by the Office of Personnel Management and published in the Federal Register on March 30, 1983.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 7, 1983

Mrs. SCHROEDER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

A BILL

To prohibit the implementation of certain regulations proposed by the Office of Personnel Management and published in the Federal Register on March 30, 1983.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That (a) notwithstanding any other provision of law, the pro-
4 posed regulations published in parts III-VI of the Federal
5 Register on March 30, 1983 (48 Fed. Reg. 13,342 to
6 13,381)—

7 (1) may not take effect, or

8 (2) if in effect as of the date of the enactment of
9 this Act—

1 (A) shall be null and void retroactive to their
2 effective date, and

3 (B) any regulation modified or superseded by
4 any of the regulations so published shall have full
5 force and effect (retroactive to the effective date
6 referred to in subparagraph (A)) as if it had not
7 been so modified or superseded.

8 (b) The Office of Personnel Management may not issue,
9 promulgate, or carry out a regulation having the effect of any
10 of the proposed regulations referred to in subsection (a).

○

April 7, 1983

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks

E 1441

was more beating. They were ultimately handed over to their lawyer, who cared for them in his home. At night Zipollis men walked round the house shrieking: "White kaffir, we will get you yet!"

Practically the whole world—certainly most of the Church world—united to destroy Rhodesia and replace it with Zimbabwe. Where are the leaders with the courage to face the consequences of their triumph? Philip Hartlebury and Colin Evans (formerly of the Central Intelligence Organization) were detained for a year and sadistically interrogated. At their recent trial they were acquitted on all charges, and immediately re-detained by comrade Ushewokunze. Is this liberation?

THE ZIMBABWE GULAG

The tortured Air Force officers have been detained since August, apparently no longer maltreated. There is talk of a trial in the middle of the year, the "evidence," as far as is known, being their confessions under duress. It is reported that Mrs. Thatcher has vetoed the sale to the Zimbabwe Air Force of four new BAC Hawks, but has sanctioned the purchase of six of the more ciderly Hawker Hunters. (Hawker Hunters were destroyed in the July attack on Thornhill airbase for which the officers are, absurdly, presumed guilty.)

As I write there is still no news of Mr. Stanley Malumisa and his two companions, re-detained after telling the truth in court about Mr. Wally Stuttaford. New detainees are picked up almost daily: General Hickman (former commander of the Rhodesian army), Trevor Ashburner (ex-Rhodesian policeman, returning on holiday) and Robert Palmer are three whose names we know. John Cowan, shot and wounded by Zipollis, was released on the orders of Prime Minister Mugabe. Dr. Frank Bertrand, his son Stephen and Allen Cauvin remain in gaol, as does Mr. Victor Radmore, reported to be so sick that he is unlikely to survive his sentence. Mr. Ian Smith has been spared detention so far, but continues to experience a nightmare of harassment. He has been deprived of his passport and of the means to defend himself from armed attack.

"Detention and Torture in Zimbabwe" is the title of a factual memorandum issued by our Group in January, and obtainable from this office.

The Psalmist writes: "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil" (Psalm 23). One who has approached the valley of the shadow is Pastor Ndabezinhle Musa, converted terrorist and perhaps Zimbabwe's most courageous black evangelist. During the war years he would brave every danger to take relief, as well as the Gospel, to villages in inaccessible parts of the country. Today he is a diabetic of fragile health, though this did not deter him from accepting the invitation of his friends and preaching in Europe after an exhausting tour of the US. Following his return (when he was questioned at Harare airport) he fell very sick indeed, and there was widespread dismay when, on leaving hospital, he was arrested. At one time he was in leg-irons, and after a week he was transferred to Chikurubi Maximum Security Gaol. "Ndaba" preaches a simple, uncompromising Biblical gospel, and it was plain that the era of open persecution of Christians in Zimbabwe had begun. But he feared no evil.

His friends spent a day in prayer, waiting to see if he would be released after questioning. Then, within hours, news of his arrest was flashed to many countries. Thousands of Christians were praying for him, and representations were made by politicians. Wise counsels prevailed in Harare, and he was

freed after ten days. His own messages were simply. From gaol: "The angels are ministering." After his release: "We serve a wonderful God." The danger remains, of course, and we need not only to pray but to keep our eyes open for any further move against him or any other outspoken believer. Watch to see if he is granted a new passport. If there is to be overt persecution of Christians in Zimbabwe, as in Mozambique, the world must know. At each hostile step Zimbabwe embassies must be flooded with protests, and the governments of free nations must be pressed to act fast and firmly.

On Christmas Eve three people were killed by "dissidents" in an ambush on a busy Matabeleland highway, and 21 were injured. Two buses filled with black Christmas shoppers were stopped and the occupants ordered to set them alight, with all their luggage. The attackers fired on a group which did not obey quickly enough. A wounded man was trapped in a blazing bus and burned to death. On New Year's Eve a 74-year-old white farmer and his grandson were kidnapped: the old man was hacked to death. The same day another farmer was killed in an ambush with his children aged two and four, his brother-in-law, a friend and a black employee. Trains have been attacked and passengers killed by unidentified gunmen. In 32 months 35 white farmers and their dependents have been killed. In the year since Joshua Nkomo's dismissal from the cabinet the total number of black people murdered in political strife has run into hundreds.

Most hideous of all are the atrocities committed by the national security forces, especially Mugabe's own North Korean-trained Shona Fifth Brigade. (The 74-year-old farmer was apparently the victim of the latter, posing as Matabele dissidents.) Eyewitness reports abound. "People are being killed daily like chickens," claimed Comrad Kona in Parliament. A white-haired old man insisted he had seen a pregnant woman shot and bayoneted to death by soldiers "because you have a dissident in your stomach." This is the "legal independence" demanded by statesmen and churchmen and imposed on an unwilling country by East and West through an "election" which proved only that power grows from the barrel of a gun. Yet Zimbabwe is boosted by vast international aid—\$162 million from the US alone—and "sold" as the example to be emulated by South West Africa and South Africa! ●

BULLDOGS CAPTURE NIT; RED WAVE CAPTURES NEW YORK

HON. RICHARD H. LEHMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 1983

● Mr. LEHMAN. Mr. Speaker, last week at Madison Square Garden in New York, the Battlin' Bulldogs of California State University, Fresno, supported by approximately 2,500 rabid and rousing Red Wave fans, won the 46th Annual National Invitational Tournament, the Nation's longest running postseason collegiate basketball tournament.

The Bulldogs defeated perennial basketball powerhouse De Paul University by a score of 69 to 60 and won their first NIT and national basketball championship. In addition, they became the first Pacific Coast Athletic

Association school to win the NIT and a national basketball championship, the first west coast school to win the NIT since 1949, and the only west coast school to survive either postseason collegiate basketball tournament in 1983.

In winning the NIT, the Bulldogs were able to garner several individual awards including: Ron Anderson, NIT Most Valuable Player; Bernard Thompson, and Tyrone Bradley, All Tournament Team selections; and Boyd Grant, NIT Coach of the Year.

The NIT championship culminates another outstanding year for Coach Grant and the Bulldogs, who won 25 games and lost only 10. Their 25 victories for the season is topped only by their school record 27 wins during the 1981-82 season, with Coach Grant entering the 1982-83 season with the third highest percentage for career won-lost records among active college coaches. During the season Bernard Thompson was named to the PCAA all-league squad and was an honorable mention All-American selection by both UPI and Sporting News.

For the past 6 years, the Bulldog athletic program has been supported by the famed Red Wave, a community-wide group of fans whose sole purpose has been to be the extra man on the field, whether at home or visiting as in New York and the Madison Square Garden. They have become distinguished by their wearing of red clothing, including red hats and shoes and the waving of red pom-poms and towels. During the course of this past year, they have been responsible for driving the Bulldogs to victory, not only in basketball, but also the PCAA football championship and a victory in the California Bowl.

Their presence at the NIT in New York and the success of the Bulldog basketball team in the tournament is testimony to the university and community of Fresno and worthy of salute. Congratulations to the 1983 National Invitational Tournament champions and the Red Wave from Fresno, Calif. ●

DENY CRIMINALS ACCESS TO BULLETPROOF VESTS

HON. MARIO BIAGGI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 1983

● Mr. BIAGGI. Mr. Speaker, together with my distinguished colleague from New York, Senator MOYNIHAN, I am introducing a bill today that would place tighter controls on the sale of bulletproof vests and would impose tough new penalties on criminals who wear them.

This measure is being introduced only 1 week after a New York City Police Department memo cited "over 50 cases" where bulletproof vests were

E 1442

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — *Extensions of Remarks*

April 7, 1983

being worn by criminals at the time of their arrest. It documented 12 specific cases from May 1982 to March 1983, including a criminal arrested for murder on March 27 who was wearing a bulletproof vest with "NYPD" stamped on it, indicating it belonged to the New York City Police Department.

Simply put, this bill is aimed at saving police lives by cracking down on the increasing use of bulletproof vests by criminals.

Under my bill, the dealers, manufacturers and importers of bullet resistant body armor would have to be federally licensed. In addition, those persons who order a vest would have to wait 21 days to pick them up so that law enforcement authorities could check the accuracy of basic information the purchasers would be required to provide. It would be unlawful, for a felon, a fugitive, a drug addict, or anyone under the age of 18 to buy a bulletproof vest.

The bill would also impose stiff new penalties on any person wearing a bulletproof vest during the commission of a crime. These penalties of 1 to 10 years for the first offense and a mandatory 2 to 25 years for the second or subsequent offense, would be in addition to any sentence imposed for the original crime. Any licensed dealer who illegally sells a vest would be subject to a maximum 5-year prison sentence, or up to a \$5,000 fine, or both.

Other evidence of the increased use of bulletproof vests by criminals includes a January 27, 1983, Metropolitan Police District of Columbia (MPDC) memo. It states:

Over the past two months (D.C. Police) have arrested about 12 narcotics dealers who were found to be wearing bulletproof vests under their street attire . . . The vests we have seized have been of a superior quality with two panels in the front and rear which cover the body entirely from the neck down to the waist.

It should be noted that the vests described in this memo offer double the protection of most police vests, which have only a single panel in the front and rear.

I first introduced similar legislation last Congress in response to the 1981 Nyack, N.Y., Brink's robbery. During that incident one of the robbers was wearing a bulletproof vest that stopped a police bullet, allowing him time to return the fire and kill two law enforcement officers.

In fact, on the very same day that I introduced last year's bill, one of the FBI's most wanted killers was arrested wearing a bulletproof vest. At the time, I expressed outrage that a career criminal like Joseph "Mad Dog" Sullivan, who police say has murdered as many as 20 people, might have been aided in his reign of terror by the added security a bulletproof vest provides.

I became increasingly concerned about the problem last year when a company introduced a new line of "de-

signer body armor apparel" in New York, which was targeted toward civilian customers.

Mr. Speaker, as one who was wounded 10 times during my 23 years as a New York City police officer, I fully recognize the valuable protection bulletproof vests offer police. In fact, a Justice Department report shows that over 400 police lives have been saved by soft body armor, since it first started being used in the mid-1970's.

However, the situation is totally reversed when these vests get into the wrong hands. My bill is designed to prevent such potentially tragic occurrences, and I urge its prompt and favorable consideration.

We have an obligation to protect our Nation's law enforcement officers, not the criminals. ●

AN AMERICAN HERITAGE IS BEING SOLD ON THE AUCTION BLOCK DAILY

HON. BILL ALEXANDER

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 1983

● Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, the crisis that is currently faced by the American farmer affects not only the farmer himself, but also his family, friends, and neighbors. Because of this, the wives of the American farmers have played an all important role in shaping our cultural heritage and political foundations. Throughout our history, whenever she has felt that our leaders have failed to take the necessary steps to insure peace and prosperity, the farm woman has banded with others to take action.

As the following letter indicates, this willingness to take the initiative has not diminished. The letter, from the Arkansas WIFE (Women Involved in Farm Economics) organizations to this body, eloquently describes the plight of our farmers and suggests the steps we must take to alleviate it.

There is no more important issue before Congress than the well being of the American farm economy. The very essence of our national wealth is our agricultural land and the men and women who work it. I sincerely hope that this message from a small but representative group of these people does not fall on deaf ears.

The letter follows:

AN AMERICAN HERITAGE IS BEING SOLD ON THE AUCTION BLOCK DAILY

The American farm family of today and our agricultural heritage is threatened with extinction because of the economic hardships of the past three years. Daily, across America, farm families stand helpless and watch their homes, farms and equipment auctioned off.

Because the farmer of America is suffering, many other industries, homes, businesses, and individual wage earners are facing bankruptcy and foreclosures. It can best be summed up by saying, As goes the American farmer, so goes America. The economic suffering inflicted upon the American farmer

either has or will ultimately affect all of America.

Action to help the farmer is urgently needed to avert a total collapse of the agricultural community, of America and Arkansas. The time has come for Party differences and political debate to end and the development of a sound and realistic, bi-partisan agriculture program begin.

It is our belief that the following actions will assist greatly the American farmer:

1. Establish within the State Department an Undersecretary for agricultural Affairs to analyze the impact of foreign policy upon agriculture to protect the interests of American farmers and assist in the sales of agricultural products overseas at the diplomatic level.

2. Create a council of agriculture export advisors to work with the Departments of Commerce, Agriculture, and State to more adequately coordinate America's agriculture policy and to promote sales of agricultural products overseas.

3. Examine the long processing procedures of the FmHA so as to more expeditiously meet loan demands.

4. Make available economic disaster loans for the duration of the present economic crisis.

5. Make available low interest loans to less developed countries to help reduce the grain surplus in America. The feeding of the poor and hungry around the world is a moral issue and should not be a diplomatic and political tool.

Only by all Americans working together and praying together for a common goal can a suffering America once again become a prosperous, healthy America. The heritage of America—American agriculture. ●

BLOCK OPM REGULATIONS

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 1983

● Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to stop the regulatory proposals made by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) on March 30, 1983. The four proposals—concerning reduction in force, with-in-grade pay increases, scope of bargaining in labor-management negotiations, and overtime pay—have been greeted with consternation and opposition by public administrators, agency managers, veterans groups, labor unions, and civil servants. As far as I can tell, OPM Director Donald J. Devine has the support of no responsible party in pushing for these fundamental changes in the merit system.

I am proposing this legislation for a number of reasons:

One, these regulations represent a major policy change in the way the Federal work force is managed. In our democracy, basic policy is set by the legislative branch. Executive regulations should be used only to implement congressionally mandated policy, not to usurp this authority. I continue to urge Dr. Devine to withdraw these regulations and submit them as proposed legislation.

AR 2449

April 7, 1983

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — *Extensions of Remarks*

E 1443

Two, these regulations run counter to a number of clear congressional decisions. In the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, Congress decided to apply the concept of pay for performance only to managers and executives at the GS-13 level and above. These regulations would apply this concept governmentwide. Also, in the Reform Act, we decided that the field of labor-management relations should be regulated by an independent agency, the Federal Labor Relations Authority, through case decisions and should not be regulated by the central personnel management agency, OPM. In these regulations, OPM arrogates the role of governmentwide labor-management regulator. In the Veterans Preference Act of 1944 and in subsequent amendments, Congress decided to give veterans strong preference in reductions-in-force (RIF's). These regulations would dilute that preference. And, the list of statutory incursions goes on.

Three, these regulations attempt to base a number of personnel decisions, concerning retention and pay, on the performance appraisal system, which has been operational for less than 2 years. As chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Civil Service, I have closely studied the development of the performance appraisal system. I hope that one day it will be strong to support these decisions. Right now, however, it is not. Performance appraisal is as often used to reward loyalty to the Reagan administration as it is used to reward increases in productivity and efficiency. Many agencies have informal quota systems to force lower performance ratings. There are tremendous differences in the quality of the systems between and within agencies. To use this immature and fragile system as the bedrock for crucial personnel decisions is bad personnel management.

Four, these regulations fundamentally alter the role of personnel management within Federal agencies. One of the thrusts of the Civil Service Reform Act was to give agency managers the tools to better manage their own work forces. The Reform Act was an attempt to loosen the regulatory hammerlock which the old Civil Service Commission had on the agencies. These regulations abandon this central purpose of the Reform Act and reimpose the Office of Personnel Management as Big Brother over agencies.

Five, these regulations are another slap at Federal workers. Their basic purpose is to cut the benefits and rights of civil servants. I say enough is enough. We have cut the pay, reduced the health benefits, slashed retirement benefits, and fired 4 percent of the work force over the last 2 years. What we need in order to provide efficient and responsible government to the American people is a few years of stability. These regulations just escalate the Reagan administration's war against the civil service.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation. ●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT CRANSTON

HON. TIM VALENTINE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 1983

● Mr. VALENTINE. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Robert Cranston, director of the American Forces Information Service (AFIS), Department of Defense, upon the occasion of his retirement, April 1, 1983, after 42 years of exceptional service to his country.

When servicemen and women and their families overseas hear their favorite recordings and up-to-the-minute news on the radio, or watch a popular television program on an Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS) station, it has for many years been largely due to the work of Robert Cranston, and the close relationship he has established for the Department of Defense with the communication industry.

Through discussions with leading executives of the entertainment industry, he has made major breakthroughs in securing the release of first-rate, current broadcast fare for airing by 1,100 AFRTS stations on Army posts, Marine and Air Force bases, and on Navy ships around the world. His initiation of a satellite network for providing the best American programs to remote military bases and locations overseas has been a remarkable success.

Soon it will be possible for American troops, no matter where they may be stationed around the world, to watch live American programs from back home—the same programs we enjoy each day.

During this tenure as director of AFIS, Robert Cranston has been responsible for the development of the DOD-wide newspaper, Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine (SSAM). This highly successful feature publication packages internal information in an unconventional and innovative format, targeted at our younger service members. SSAM's no-nonsense, tell-it-like-it-is style puts out the straight word on a variety of subjects of interest and relevance to the men and women of the Armed Forces.

He has also directed the development of Defense magazine, which conveys information on strategy, policy, operations and planning from the Secretary of Defense and other high level DOD managers and service leaders to the senior civilian and military members of the Department of Defense throughout the world.

In addition, Robert Cranston has been a leader in eliminating unnecessary DOD periodicals and pamphlets. He revitalized DOD's periodicals con-

trol program, and nearly \$4 million has been saved in the last 2 fiscal years. Over 300 periodicals have been eliminated.

Early in his tenure, the Pacific Stars and Stripes newspaper, which provides world news and command coverage for our forces in the Pacific area, encountered severe financial difficulties. Robert Cranston led DOD-wide efforts which ended the financial crisis and put the Pacific Stars and Stripes back on the road to financial health.

Robert Cranston was responsible for oversight of the education and training of DOD public affairs personnel through the Defense Information School at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind. His leadership resulted in improved cooperation between the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Public Affairs, and the Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force, whose public affairs specialists are trained at the school. The school achieved accreditation which makes it possible to grant college credits to its graduates, many of whom are pursuing further higher education in order to better serve their country. He spearheaded the introduction of new courses—including broadcast management, electronic journalism, and a course for senior enlisted public affairs supervisors.

Because of Robert Cranston's leadership, DOD public affairs personnel now and in the future will do a better job of keeping the American public and DOD internal audiences well informed on the operation and capabilities of their Department of Defense.

As a colonel in the U.S. Army, prior to his service as the civilian director of AFIS, Robert Cranston was commander of the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service in Los Angeles from January 1966 to February 1967 and again from November 1968 to March 1973.

While stationed in the Los Angeles area, Col. Robert Cranston was very active in the radio and television industry, serving as a board member of the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters' Association. He was also awarded the Distinguished Service Award in 1971 by the Los Angeles Area United Service Organization.

The Cranston name is well known in the radio and television industry, as Robert Cranston's father was general manager of WBAP (AM-FM-TV), Fort Worth, Tex., for 30 years, and his sister is a professor in the School of Communications at the University of Washington.

In addition to serving as commander of the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service in Los Angeles, some other military assignments held by Robert Cranston include: The Army's first television officer; combat radio reporter during the Korean conflict; Chief, Radio-TV-Pictorial Branch of Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers (SHAPE), Europe, under General Eisenhower; liaison and technical adviser

E 1444

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — *Extensions of Remarks*

April 7, 1983

for the Army to numerous commercial radio and television programs and motion pictures; and commanding officer, American Forces Network-Europe, the largest radio broadcasting complex within the Department of Defense.

He is a member of the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters and the Radio and Television News Directors Association and is a founder of the Armed Forces Broadcasters Association.

A London-born Texan, Robert Cranston was called to active duty in November 1940 with the 56th Cavalry Brigade, Texas National Guard, and retired in March 1973 with more than 30 years of active duty. Among his many decorations and awards are the Distinguished Service Medal, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal.

Upon his retirement after 42 years of dedicated service as an Army officer and as a civil servant, Robert Cranston is viewed with high esteem by his colleagues in the Department of Defense. But, perhaps even more impressive is the high regard in which he is held by key figures in the professional communication industry throughout the world.

He is a rare man—a retired Army colonel and a compassionate civil servant—tough enough to cut through red-tape in order to get quality radio and television programs provided to young soldiers and military families overseas. I congratulate Robert Cranston for all he has done. I am confident that his future endeavors will prove fruitful as well. Thank you, Robert Cranston, for a job well done.●

SECRETARY WATT'S MUSICAL MORALS

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 1983

● Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that Interior Secretary James Watt may be taking the snap, crackle, and pop out of this year's Fourth of July celebrations on the Mall by banning rock music. Secretary Watt is concerned that rock music will attract the wrong element. I do not have a problem with The National Symphony Orchestra performing or the U.S. Army Blues Band playing or even with Las Vegas singer Wayne Newton crooning a tune. Inviting Mr. Newton may be the first and last time that Secretary Watt has promoted someone of American Indian descent—I like that. But Mr. Speaker, I happen to like rock music and I do not drink or take drugs when I attend the Fourth of July celebrations on the Mall. What is more American than the Beach Boys, Merl Haggard, Lawrence Welk, Diana Ross, or a Blue Grass Band? Why should Secretary Watt impose his musical morals on the

thousands of Americans who flock to Washington for the Mall's Fourth of July celebrations? By banning rock music on the Fourth of July, Secretary Watt will be turning a deaf ear to millions of Americans. So what else is new? He turns a deaf ear to protecting our environment, to the problems our Native Americans face, to the Congress. Maybe we should all chip in and buy Secretary Watt a hearing aid.●

AMERICAN LEGION DEGREE TEAM FROM LINGLESTOWN WILL PERFORM AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 1983

● Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, recently I learned that the talents of an American Legion degree team in my district have been nationally recognized. The members of the unit from Post 272 in Linglestown, Pa., have been invited to perform their memorial service at the American Legion national convention this August in Seattle, Wash. It is only the second time in the Legion's 65-year history that a degree team has been so honored. The first such occurrence was in 1978 at the national convention in New Orleans, and also featured the Linglestown team.

The primary purpose of the degree team is to honor their deceased comrades of the American Legion. However, these persons have raised to the highest possible level the ritual of paying respect to the fallen, with an impressive and emotional ceremony. In addition to a chaplain and a narrator, the degree team includes a bugler and a male vocalist. Several others are involved with the process both on the stage and behind the scenes. They all deserve praise for the quality of the team's planning and performance.

For some time, the Pennsylvania legionnaires have greatly appreciated the degree team's participation at memorial services for their fellow veterans. The Linglestown team has performed at posts and conventions throughout the State. I am pleased that they will have the opportunity, once again, to show legionnaires from across the United States their moving tribute to the brave men and women who helped defend our country in the armed services. I am sure that American Legion members throughout Pennsylvania will share my pride for Linglestown, as will Congress, when the national convention meets in August.●

AMERICAN CONCRETE PIPE ASSOCIATION

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 1983

● Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of my colleagues, the 75th Anniversary of the American Concrete Pipe Association which was recently celebrated here in Washington.

The American Concrete Pipe Association was founded in Ames, Iowa, by a group of farm-drain-tile manufacturers who sought to exchange ideas toward establishing a high-quality, standardized product. It was apparent that research, standard specifications, technical development, and product promotion would be difficult to achieve by producers acting individually. The association rapidly expanded and now includes concrete culvert and sewer pipe manufacturers in the United States, Canada, and 42 other countries, accomplishing collectively what they cannot achieve individually.

Currently, 400 plants are operated by ACPA members, and the past 30 years witnessed a 300-percent increase in tonnage sales of concrete pipe to the point where annual production in recent years has exceeded 13 million tons.

This milestone is significant in that it marks the contributions made by the concrete pipe industry toward our Nation's growth and environment, and deserves our congratulations.●

VERIFICATION—REQUIRED MEASURES OF CONFIDENCE

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 1983

● Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, many critics of the nuclear arms freeze movement want us to believe that a freeze agreement could not be verified. This is simply not the case. The sophisticated technical means already available for verification make it unlikely that the Soviets would gain any military advantage if they tried to break the agreement. This view was supported recently by Adm. Eugene J. Carroll, Jr., Deputy Director of the Center for Defense Information. Admiral Carroll acknowledges that we need not trust the Russians in order to verify a freeze agreement.

I recommend to my colleagues the following statement by Admiral Carroll:

VERIFICATION—REQUIRED MEASURES OF CONFIDENCE

(By Adm. Eugene J. Carroll, Jr.)

"Nothing would be done at all if a man waited till he could do it so well that no one