

TRIBUTE TO CARLOS ALBERTO
WAHNON DE CARVALHO VEIGA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to an outstanding leader and Head of State, Carlos Alberto Wahnon de Carvalho Veiga, the first democratically elected Prime Minister of the Republic of Cape Verde. This provocative and exciting leader has—with grace and integrity—steered his country through its transition from a one-party to a multi-party system. He is visiting the United States this week and is being honored by the California Legislature for his distinguished service to Cape Verdeans.

The accomplishments of Carlos Alberto Wahnon de Carvalho Veiga are due in no small part to his willingness to accept change and meet the challenges before him. His unwavering commitment to civil rights, civil liberties and freedom is testimony to his humanity and basic goodness. Veiga exemplifies the selflessness, patience and empathy characteristic of the best leaders of the world.

Carlos Alberto Wahnon de Carvalho Veiga's career spans a period of immense change for the Republic of Cape Verde. He earned his law degree at the "Universidade Classica de Lisboa" in 1971. From 1972 until 1974 he worked in Angola as the Registrar in the City of Bie. He then returned to Cape Verde in 1975 as the Public Prosecutor in Praia and was the Director General of Internal Administration until 1978. In 1980, Mr. Veiga was appointed Attorney General. In 1982, as a result of his opposition to state policies, he left government for private practice and was elected president of the Cape Verdean Bar Association. Veiga's vision for Cape Verde's democratic development at a time of political instability and upheaval became evident in 1985 when he joined Parliament and soon after set in motion vigorous efforts to democratize the Government and set the foundation for the creation of the Movement for Democracy (MPD), the present ruling party.

His positions in defense of democratic reforms are well known and respected by the majority of Capeverdeans. During his second term in the Parliament he became President of the MPD and soon led his party to a strong victory over the ruling party in the National Assembly. In 1991, he was elected Prime Minister. Carlos Alberto Wahnon de Carvalho Veiga represents the "spirit" of the Capeverdean people both on the ten island archipelago and across the world.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting Prime Minister Carlos Alberto Wahnon de Carvalho Veiga, whose dedication to the causes in which he deeply believes is an inspiration to us all.

IN TRIBUTE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 1998

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues today in honoring the selfless acts

of Detective Gibson and Private First Class Chestnut of the United States Capitol Police.

As we know, the U.S. Capitol is the people's house and the dedicated men and women of the United States Capitol Police guard this institution to protect the Members of Congress, their staff and millions of people who come to bear witness to the working of our democratic process. The Capitol is a living testament to the rights of our citizens and those that are sworn to guard it truly defend the rights of mankind.

On July 24, 1998, Officers Gibson and Chestnut made the ultimate sacrifice for these unalienable rights in courageously protecting the lives of tourists, staff and Members of Congress. We are forever indebted to these brave men. Had it not been for their heroic actions, many more innocent people could have been seriously injured or killed.

Mr. Speaker, I stand with my colleagues today to honor these men killed in the line of duty and to pay my condolences to their families. I vow to ensure their legacy of defending the people's house will live on for generations to come; symbolized by our continuing commitment to open the halls of democracy to the public. God Bless Officers Gibson and Chestnut for their memory will forever survive in the freedoms of our nation's Capitol.

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE
U.S.S. "HARRY S TRUMAN"

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, July 25, 1998, I attended the commissioning of the U.S.S. *Harry S Truman*, CVN 75. It is our Navy's newest and most advanced nuclear aircraft carrier. It was a special day not only for me, but for Missouri and for the United States of America. This vessel bears the name of a fellow Missourian and family friend, and I feel that it is most fitting and appropriate that an aircraft carrier be named for this great man. Harry Truman provided heroic leadership and set a standard of personal accountability during a critical period in our nation's history. This son of rural Missouri possessed common sense and decency.

I share my remarks of that day with the Members of the House.

REMARKS OF CONGRESSMAN IKE SKELTON (D-MO) COMMISSIONING OF THE U.S.S. "HARRY S TRUMAN" JULY 25, 1998—NORFOLK, VA

THE TRUMAN-SKELTON CONNECTION

This may well be the largest gathering of Missourians outside our state since the inauguration of Harry S Truman as President on January 20, 1949, in Washington.

As a teenager, I was fortunate to accompany my father to that momentous event on the east front of the United States Capitol. President Truman began his inaugural address by saying, "I accept with humility the honor which the American people have conferred upon me." Were he with us today, I am convinced that President Truman would again be humbled by the honor of having this great naval ship named for him.

I am able to speak from a personal point of view because of the friendship that was formed some seventy years ago—on September 17, 1928, to be exact. The occasion was the dedication of the Pioneer Mother Statue—

the Madonna of the Trail—located in my hometown of Lexington, Missouri. Two speakers on the program met that day—the President of the National Old Trails Association and a representative of the Lexington American Legion Post. The former was County Court Judge Harry S. Truman, from nearby Jackson County, and the other was the young Lafayette County Prosecuting Attorney, Ike Skelton, my father. Because of the lasting friendship that was formed that day, my wife and I in later years came to know the genuinely nice person we call the "Man from Independence".

HARRY TRUMAN—THE MAN

My task today is to speak of the man—Harry S. Truman—and I direct my remarks especially to the sailors of this ship who will be known as "Truman sailors" from this day forward.

Truman once wrote, "Great men and women are assayed in future generations." So as this ship is commissioned in his name today, let us take measure of Truman the man and reflect on the traits of his character that allowed him to lead this great nation and be recognized as one of America's finest Presidents.

Harry Truman was bedrock American. He remains a role model for Americans of all ages and generations.

Underlying Truman's political accomplishments was the strength of his personal character. When faced with challenges, Truman put his shoulder to the task, used his Missouri good sense to "call it as he saw it", and forged ahead with the serious business at hand. And unlike those who assign blame to others, he believed in personal responsibility, as the sign on his desk and the motto of this ship declare—"The Buck Stops Here."

HARRY TRUMAN WAS DEVOTED TO HIS FAMILY

Harry Truman was a man of great devotion to his wife and lifelong sweetheart, Bess, and to his daughter, Margaret. The hundreds of letters exchanged by President and Mrs. Truman during their courtship and throughout their married life give testimony to their close relationship. And who can forget the letter written by a loving father who, coming to the defense of his daughter's vocal talents, threatened to blacken the eyes and break the nose of the music critic that published an unflattering review?

HARRY TRUMAN LOVED HIS COUNTRY

Harry Truman had high regard for the Armed Forces of our country, having served in combat during the First World War as an artillery battery commander and later rising to the rank of Colonel in the Army Reserve.

He loved America and the American people, ever keeping the public interest uppermost in his decisions.

He was an avid reader and student of history. My friend, the late Congressman Fred Schwengel, told me about meeting Senator Truman in 1935 while Schwengel was a college student in Missouri. Truman advised him that to be a good American, "... you should know your history." That story is consistent with my experience. I well remember taking a group of grade school students to visit the Truman Library in 1963, and though President Truman was of advanced age, he spoke to them in the library auditorium about American history and the Constitution. He wanted young people to learn as much as they could about America.

HARRY TRUMAN WAS POLITICALLY COURAGEOUS

Like the Presidents who came before and after him, Truman was burdened with the loneliness that goes along with being the Chief Executive. But President Truman did not shy away from difficult, often politically unpopular, decisions. He once said, "Do your duty and history will do you justice."

Today we applaud Truman's controversial decision to integrate the Armed Forces. In the face of opposition from military leaders and much of the American public, Truman had the courage to reject their arguments and do what he thought was right.

The state of the world prompted Truman to move away from America's established pattern of peacetime isolationism in order to assist European economic recovery through the Marshall Plan and to protect Western Europe under the umbrella of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Truman also had the courage to stand up to the communist aggression that marked the beginning of the Cold War. The Truman Doctrine made clear that the United States would not stand idly by in the face of communist aggression in Greece, Turkey, and elsewhere. Truman's commitment to the democratic rights of free people was clear as the U.S. provided essential supplies to the people of Berlin during the Soviet blockade and when Truman made the agonizing decision to use American troops to lead the United Nation's resistance to the communist invasion of South Korea. These actions earned the praise of British Prime Minister Winston Churchill who said to Truman, "You, more than any other man, have saved Western civilization."

HARRY TRUMAN WAS TRUE TO HIS PERSONAL BELIEFS AND VALUES

Truman learned about hard work and the value of a job well-done while growing up as a Missouri farm boy. His mother claimed that he plowed the straightest furrow of anyone in the community.

His handshake was firm, reflecting his farming background. His posture ever remained that of a soldier, and his early morning, fast-paced walks—in Washington and later in Independence—were legendary.

His honesty and personal integrity were never questioned. Though not a great orator, his speeches and conversations were direct and to the point.

He was a kind and compassionate man. At a campaign whistlestop in 1952, I saw him purposefully step down from the train to greet a severely disabled man who had struggled to the front of the crowd to catch a glimpse of President Truman.

His loyalty to his friends was enduring. While Vice President, he attended the funeral of Tom Pendergast, the disgraced Kansas City machine politician who had supported Truman early in his career. Truman, refusing to allow outside critics to weaken the bonds of his personal ties, attended the funeral and showed that he was a loyal friend to the end.

He was positive in nature and optimistic about the future.

Truman never forgot his Missouri roots, and reflected poet Rudyard Kipling's description of the man who could "... walk with kings" without losing "the common touch."

He was a man of determination. Prior to the 1948 Presidential election, pundits and pollsters had written off Harry Truman. Just before the election, I asked my father if President Truman had a chance to win. My Dad replied, "Ike, don't count Harry Truman out." Truman didn't let others convince him that his race for a term in his own right would fail. Instead, he took his message directly to the American people during his trademark whistlestop campaign tour. Then, as now, America loved a man with guts, and Truman's persistence was rewarded with a tremendous victory on election day.

Election night reports indicated a solid vote for Truman, but well-known radio commentator H.V. Kaltenborne repeatedly predicted, in his then familiar shrill voice, that Harry Truman would be defeated by Thomas

Dewey. Fortunately, Truman had a keen sense of humor. His wry wit was on display during 1949's inaugural events. While in Washington for the inauguration, I attended the Electoral Dinner. Although at the time my attention was a bit distracted by the beauty of Hollywood actress Joan Bondell, who was sitting at a table a few feet away from me, I will never forget President Truman's mocking impersonation of H.V. Kaltenborne, which brought down the house with laughter.

CHARGE TO THE SAILORS

My mere words today cannot do justice to President Harry S. Truman. But you sailors—you Truman sailors—who will serve aboard this ship named for him can do justice to his memory.

You can do your duty as if Harry Truman were looking over your shoulder. You can reflect all that was good and decent about him: take responsibility for your actions; be honest and direct in your dealings with others; humble in your demeanor; straight in your posture and brisk in your walk; thoughtful and considerate of others; loyal to your friends; devoted to your family; determined in your endeavors; know the history of our country; appreciate humor; proud of the uniform you wear; and love America.

From the earliest times, all sailors at sea have felt a sense of loneliness. On such occasions, I urge you to reflect on the loneliness of Harry Truman when he made momentous decisions while doing his duty for our country. During your lonely times, may the spirit of Harry Truman be an inspiration to you.

Keep in mind one more thought. President Truman liked to tell the story about the grave marker in Tombstone, Arizona, that read, "Here lies Jack Williams. He done his damndest." Missouri's President always strived to do just that—to do his damndest—that is, to do his best. So I charge you, Truman sailors, to heed the wisdom of that epitaph by doing your damndest. By doing so, your dedication will ensure that American freedom continues to shine like a polestar in the heavens.

It is now my pleasure to introduce the man who put his shoulder to the wheel by appointing and leading the Commissioning Committee—Missourians all—to the highly successful conclusion that we are witnessing on this occasion. I am proud to call him my friend. He is Trumanesque in his character and is a truly dedicated public servant—The Governor of our State of Missouri, the Honorable Mel Carnahan. At the conclusion of his remarks, he will pass the traditional long glass.

God bless.

THE EPA, TOBACCO AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I call to my colleagues' attention this incisive and well-written column by George Will that in many ways captures the essence of what is going on at the EPA and throughout the environmental community. I would particularly direct my colleagues to the final paragraph in Mr. Will's column in which he quotes from an article by Dennis Prager in the *Weekly Standard* about "this assault on the idea of personal responsibility."

[From the Washington Post, July 30, 1998]

EPA'S CRUSADERS

(By George F. Will)

Before the tobacco bill was blown to rags and atoms by its supporters' overreaching, they substituted reiteration for reasoning. But then, for years now the debate about smoking has been distorted by vehement people who rarely suffer even temporary lapses into logic.

A new reason for skepticism about the evidence and motives of the anti-tobacco crusaders comes in a ruling by a federal judge in North Carolina concerning a 1993 report by the Environmental Protection Agency. EPA said secondhand smoke is a Class A carcinogen that causes 3,000 lung cancer deaths per year. The judge said:

"EPA publicly committed to a conclusion before research had begun; excluded industry by violating the [1986 Radon Gas and Indoor Air Quality Research] Act's procedural requirements; adjusted established procedure and scientific norms to validate the Agency's public conclusion; and aggressively utilized the Act's authority to disseminate findings to establish a de facto regulatory scheme intended to restrict Plaintiffs' products and to influence public opinion."

The judge charges EPA not just with bad science but with bad faith—with having "cherry picked its data." Granted, this is just one judge's opinion; EPA demurs; the litigation, already five years old, will churn on. Still, what disinterested persons consider the judge's conclusion implausible?

EPA's report came in 1993, when the infant Clinton administration was preparing to micro-manage the nation's health, and hence its behavior. Furthermore, do not all bureaucracies tend to try to maximize their missions? EPA's mission is to reduce environmental hazards. What kind of people are apt to be attracted to work in EPA? Those prone to acute anxieties about hazards. Is an agency apt to get increased appropriations and media attention by moderate assessments of hazards? What is the evidentiary value of the EPA defenders' assertion, in response to the judge, that in California (where smoking has been banned even in bars) the state EPA agrees that secondhand smoke is a serious carcinogen?

The anti-tobacco crusade was a money grab by government that, had the grab succeeded, would have acquired a dependence on a continuous high level of smoking to fund programs paid for by exactions from a legal industry selling a legal product to free people making foolish choices. The crusade's rationale was threefold: Secondhand smoke is deadly to nonsmokers; people start smoking because they, poor things, are putty in the hands of advertisers; smokers cannot stop because nicotine is too addictive.

The last rationale is inconvenienced by the fact that there are almost as many American ex-smokers as smokers. The assertion of the irresistible power of advertising is so condescending toward the supposedly malleable masses (notice, the people who assert the power of advertising never include themselves among the susceptible), the anti-tobacco crusade had to become a children's crusade. Hence the reiterated assertion that almost as many 6-year-olds—90 percent of them—recognize Joe Camel as recognize Mickey Mouse. This assertion, akin to EPA's "science," was based entirely on interviews with 23 Atlanta preschoolers. There has been no demonstration that advertising by tobacco brands increases tobacco consumption (rather than particular brands' market shares).

One mechanism of the money grab was to be a tax increase of up to \$1.50 per pack. However, John E. Calfee of the American Enterprise Institute, writing in the *Weekly*