

supercomputing on the occasion of his retirement. Lester "Les" T. Davis, chief operating officer and one of the cofounders of Cray Research, Inc. in Chippewa Falls, WI, recently announced he would retire after 22 years with the company.

Cray Research began in Chippewa Falls in 1972 as a small start-up company with a handful of employees. Les Davis took financial risks, made personal sacrifices, and worked extraordinarily long and hard to create the first broadly used supercomputer. That in turn created a new industry, and with it the company that became synonymous with supercomputing. Cray now has 5,000 employees worldwide.

Mr. Davis has served as the heart and soul of Cray Research, exhibiting both technological and managerial leadership. In addition to his role as the technical and design leader of the company, he has also been Cray Research's No. 1 salesperson, winning and retaining many global customers over the years with his thorough knowledge of Cray architecture, software, and applications.

Mr. Davis has made a significant contribution to the people of Chippewa Falls by helping to increase the economic development in that area for over two decades. He also has made an exceptional contribution to our Nation in advancing America's leadership in the critical field of supercomputing.

I want to thank Mr. Davis for his vision and the spirit he instilled in our Nation's scientific community. We all wish him the best in whatever his future holds.

A TRIBUTE TO JAMES F.
BOATRIGHT

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 1995

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished public servant, Mr. James F. Boatright, as he retires on March 3 from his position in the Department of the Air Force. Mr. Boatright's Federal career spans 39 years of service. He served as a commissioned officer in the Army and then entered the Federal civil service where he has served in the Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Army Research and Development Laboratory, and with the Air Force. Since 1979 he has served with great distinction as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations. It is in this capacity that we in the Congress have become acquainted with and appreciative of the many talents of Jim Boatright.

During the buildup of our military forces throughout the early 1980's, Jim Boatright spearheaded the efforts of the Department of the Air Force to modernize its facilities championing quality of life in both the workplace and the living environment long before it became the catchword of the Department of Defense. His efforts succeeded in providing benefits to all members of the Air Force, active, reserve and civilian, as well as to their dependents who accompanied them to Air Force installations worldwide. Those installations have come to be regarded as a source of

pride throughout the Department of the Air Force and have served to set the standard of excellence for which others strive.

With the onset of downsizing of our military forces, Jim Boatright became the focal point for the Air Force in its planning to downsize its infrastructure. Throughout the first three rounds of base closure Jim Boatright has directed the Air Force efforts to reduce and he did so with the same dedication and professionalism which has been characteristic of his career.

The quality of his performance has been recognized by numerous awards, including the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award, the Presidential Distinguished Executive Rank Award and the Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Award. He is the only two-time awardee of this latter prestigious award. Clearly these awards bespeak the respect of those for whom and with whom he has worked in the Department of Defense. In his relations with the Congress, particularly the Armed Services Committees and the Defense subcommittees of the Appropriations Committees, he was respected above all else for the integrity with which he dealt with us.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Jim Boatright for his many achievements throughout his distinguished career and I wish him good health and godspeed as he and his wife Gloria begin their most well earned retirement.

REGULATORY TRANSITION ACT OF
1995

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 450), to ensure economy and efficiency of Federal Government operations by establishing a moratorium on regulatory rulemaking actions, and for other purposes:

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the bipartisan Condit-Combest amendment to H.R. 450, the Regulatory Transition Act. This amendment seeks to extend the regulatory moratorium on rule making to include further listings of endangered species and the designation of critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act [ESA].

Congress is preparing to reauthorize and reconstruct the Endangered Species Act. Until this is done, or until the end of the 104th Congress, the Interior Department should not be permitted to continue to acquire land for habitat designation. The Condit-Combest amendment ensures that this kind of activity is stalled until Congress has time to improve the Endangered Species Act.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been charged and entrusted with the protection of America's unique animal species, but this must be balanced with the rights of private land owners, especially ancestral land owners. As Congress and the Committee on Resources reauthorizes the Endangered Species Act, I will fight to bring diligent science and re-

sponsible Federal action back into the equation. Scrupulous science should be the hallmark of critical habitat designation, not impetuous land grabbing.

On October 1, 1993, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acquired title to 370 acres designated as excess by the U.S. Navy at Ritidian, Guam, for a wildlife refuge headquarters. This land grab came even after strong objections by my office and the Government of Guam to the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's rationale to establish a refuge for Guam's declining bird population is based on weird science. The refuge was established to protect several bird species that have allegedly become endangered. However, these populations are declining because of the introduction of the nonindigenous brown tree snake, not the lack of suitable habitat. Habitat protection will only lead to the protection of the brown tree snake and the further decline of these species. This is one example of how good science and not arbitrary habitat protection could improve the Endangered Species Act. Alternatives to habitat protection should be considered by Congress as it reforms the ESA. Land grabs such as this one must not be allowed to continue in the name of habitat preservation.

In addition to grabbing 370 acres for a refuge headquarters, the Fish and Wildlife Service has imposed on Guam a 22,873 acre wildlife refuge to protect those endangered bird species. The Federal Government continues to believe that Uncle Sam knows what is best for the people of Guam. It does not. The people of Guam know what is best and insist in shaping their own destiny and that of the island.

Guam's answer to this problem is a comprehensive land conference process taking into account historical injustices as well as the need to protect our endangered bird species and the presence of the military. The Federal Government's answer is to arbitrarily dictate 25 acres per endangered bird with no regard to sound science. Guam wants to protect its endangered species, but what we are left asking ourselves this question: What is the Federal allocation for an endangered people?

While it appears that the Federal Government has lost any sense of coherent policy toward Guam, Guam will not continue to allow bureaucracies to impose their will on our people. Whether that bureaucracy is the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Department of the Interior, or the U.S. military, we will stand against any abusive action. No longer will the people of Guam wait to see what regulation or other action the Federal Government will inflict on us next.

This type of bureaucratic insolence has caused even environmentalists like myself to be opposed to the actions of the Fish and Wildlife Service. These actions are out of control and I believe a moratorium is necessary for this agency to consider its actions with regard to regulations issued under the Endangered Species Act for habitat preservation. I support a review of ESA, of its successes and its failures. Decision making should be shifted closer to the people and away from Washington so that Federal action can be more responsive to our local communities.