

Ferrino we have an outstanding gentleman, an outstanding citizen, a distinguished American, and through the good judgment of the AMVETS organization they have chosen to award him the position of highest leadership. I think their award was quite fittingly placed in his hands.

Commander Ferrino was elected national commander of AMVETS at the 24th annual national convention in New Orleans, La. The national commander serves for a 1-year term, as the members well know.

Commander Ferrino served with both the U.S. Maritime Service and the U.S. Navy during World War II, and now is a prominent Boston attorney. He began his early education in Boston, attending Boston English High School, and broadened his knowledge by receiving his A.B. degree from the University of Alabama—and I am sure the chairman would appreciate the significance of that southern learning—majoring in government and history. Later he received his LL.B. degree from Boston University.

The commander is active in the Boston University School of Law Alumni and the Boston Bar Association.

He was recently honored by the Italian Government with the Star of Solidarity with Knighthood and the rank of commander for outstanding service to the community and the Nation.

He has long been personally involved in veterans' and community affairs. He serves as a member of the executive board of the Boston Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He has served as chairman of the Annual Pilgrim Awards Dinner for several years, as moderator for the American Heritage Foundation, and as chairman of the Red Cross and Salvation Army fund drives.

His other community interests include participation in the Red Cross disaster committee. He is a member of the chamber of commerce and the Kiwanis and has served on a wide variety of other functions.

In the AMVETS organization he has served at post, State, and national levels for the past 20 years and, more recently, as national judge advocate, and on the national foreign relations committee and the national advisory board. His duties include twice serving as delegate to the World Veterans' Federation conventions, once at The Hague, the Netherlands, and another time at Lausanne, Switzerland.

Consequently, this is a gentleman of broad background and expansive knowledge and understanding of the problems not only of all veterans but of the Nation, and it is indeed a personal privilege to present to you the national commander of AMVETS, Commander Joseph V. Ferrino.

Mr. DORN. Thank you, Mrs. Heckler. I do want to welcome the distinguished commander of AMVETS to the committee, and I am sure, Commander, you are as proud of Mrs. Heckler as we are for her dedicated and devoted service to the veterans. We are glad to have her here with us today and glad to have her as a member of this committee.

Commander, before you begin your presentation I do want to present to those here—because we have some new members on the committee—our young friend Ralph E. Hall, the AMVETS national executive director, who was on the President's Advisory Commission.

Mr. Commander, you may proceed.