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CROUCH

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Then there are the hearts and minds of the self-righteous Europeans who sat on their hands while Muslims were being slaughtered in Bosnia, right in their own back yard. Where were their millions of anti-war marchers then? Apparently, the Serbs had won their hearts and minds with the slogan "ethnic cleansing."

In their eyes, the low-down, irresponsible, cowboy U.S.A. — for no reason at all — thought it had to become "the world's policeman" and go all the way over there and mess with the politics of some other people. I assume we should have been concerned about the hearts and minds of the Serbs, who now, I have no doubt, harbor deep, deep hatred of America. Hard hearts and hard minds.

None of that reduces the significance of the charges being made against the Bush administration and the cross-eyed intelligence it received as well as what now seem inarguable misleadings of the American public. But there is another point.

Bush may fall from office due to those problems, but trouble with the soldiers of jihad will not let up. They mean to get us and everybody else who does not agree with them or share their vision of how an Islamic society should run. Those committed to jihad have no interest in public relations. They show us who they are each time a bomb goes off or a hostage is beheaded.

STANLEY CROUCH writes for the New York Daily News.

Other Views

ress can cure this

ake shattering the foundations of more than a ste right-to-sue laws — that's how some trial denounced the Supreme Court's ruling June 21 mot take their HMOs to court over treatmenting, however, is more of a distraction than a rom calling for a constitutional prohibition on the 0s, the justices merely clarified that a law passed to by Congress, called ERISA, bars states from litigation.

is reignited a polarizing debate over which do be allowed to sue their managed-care composed much, when treatment is wrongly denied. In obscured the question that should matter most: ment do now to ensure that patients get timely, vered, medically necessary care in the future? as and other states tried to tackle the problem on late 1990s, passing laws setting up independent hat patients could appeal to after their insurers mmended by their doctors.

essing the underlying issues, members of Connowledge that all Americans should have access ackage of medically necessary benefits.

restling with a variety of proposals seeking to bill of rights. Many of them, such as a new bill in D. Dingell, hinge on amending ERISA to adental unfairness. ERISA gives the president, gress and some other government or church to sue their health plans in state courts, but to patients insured through private employers. ould let patients sue for unlimited damages. But bitrary and inefficient way of encouraging the nedicine

d consider regulatory alternatives, such as the ical review boards that California set up in the

may always be a hallowed privilege in America. thing to help patients get what they need most: , medically necessary care.

— From the Los Angeles Times

IOWA VIEW

Broadcast Reagan again to celebrate Midwest



ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Radio broadcaster Ronald Reagan was ready at the microphone for WHO in Des Moines in this 1937 photo.

Tribute to president could highlight agricultural heritage

By KEN QUINN

n the June 11 broadcast of IPTV's "Towa Press," host Dean Borg asked what type of memorial might be appropriate to honor the late President Ronald Reagan. That set me to thinking about how we might structure a bipartisan way to recognize the former president's

time as an Iowan and his roots in rural America.

Monuments are usually edifices — buildings or statues intended to provide a visual impact. But perhaps an equally significant and lasting monument to Reagan in Iowa might be one

you could not see but would provide its impact through the transmitted spoken word.

Iowa should consider establishing a low-powered, radio-broadcast system that could be heard in vehicles driven on Interstate 80 between Davenport and Des Moines, the two cities in which Reagan began his media career.

These broadcasts — produced with Iowa talent and resources — could include brief commentary outlining the history of his work at radio stations WOC in Davenport and WHO in Des Moines. They could be interspersed with recordings of pertinent interviews or stories as told by the president about his experiences growing up in the Midwest and working in Iowa.

Motorists entering Iowa would see a sign

directing them to tune to a particular radio frequency to hear this special tribute.

These broadcasts need not be limited to Reagan's work just in radio. They should highlight his origins in rural America by emphasizing Iowa's rich agricultural and humanitarian heritage and to make travelers aware of the multiple opportunities for places to visit in Iowa to learn about the legacy of individuals such as Herbert Hoover, Henry Wallace and Norman Borlaug—who all started life in rural America.

As such, these radio broadcasts could bring into sharp focus an area that has spectacular potential as an integrated agri-tourist destination.

The northeast quadrant of Iowa bordered by I-80 and I-35 is America's only designated National Agricultural Heritage Area. Known as Silos and Smokestacks, it encompasses a series of tourist destinations that provide a superstructure for attracting visitors to explore this historic heritage region. Among those on the list would be the John Deere Pavilion in the Quad Cities; Herbert Hoover Museum in West Branch; Amana Colonies; National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium in Dubuque and Living History Farms in Urbandale.

When completed, the proposed Iowa Environmental Education Project in Coralville, the Cedar Valley Agri-tourism Center in Waterloo and the planned World Food Prize Hall of Laureates in Des Moines will add significant elements to this list.

These facilities, taken together with the wonderful small towns and more than 60

diverse museums, art galleries and other attractions sprinkled throughout the Silos and Smokestacks area, paint a rich tableau of our agricultural heartland as well as the great achievements that emerged from small-town and rural America. Marketed as a whole, and with a Reagan radio memorial to highlight it, this National Agricultural Heritage Area would be the equivalent of a prairie national park drawing thousands of people to our state.

It is said that Hoover, Wallace and Borlaug have saved more lives than any other persons in all human history through their food distribution and research. For the past several years, the World Food Prize Foundation has endeavored to call attention to this bipartisan, humanitarian legacy by encouraging events throughout the state each October as part of a World Food Prize Harvest Festival. This year, in partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Iowa, the World Food Prize hosted the first Hoover-Wallace Dinner in Cedar Rapids, celebrating Dr. Norman Borlaug's 90th birthday.

A radio broadcast memorial along I-80 would be a meaningful tribute to "the Great Communicator" and a way for his words to accentuate further those small-town, Midwestern values that led to great agricultural and humanitarian accomplishments by Iowans from both political parties.

KEN QUINN is executive director of the World Food Prize Foundation, Des Moines. He also serves on the Silos and Smokestacks Leadership Advisory Council.

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