

TRIBUTE TO DR. KARL PISTER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a scholar who has pursued excellence in the academic world for his entire life. Dr. Karl Pister first entered the undergraduate program at the University of California at Berkeley more than 50 years ago and is today being honored as chancellor of the University of California at Santa Cruz, a position he has held for the past 5 years.

Dr. Pister first began teaching immediately after he received his Ph.D. in theoretical and applied mechanics in 1952. He began as assistant professor and in the Department of Civil Engineering at Berkeley and after 10 years was promoted to professor in 1962. For the following 18 years, he also served as vice chairman and chairman of the Division of Structural Engineering and Structural Mechanics. He was appointed dean of the College of Engineering, at Berkeley, on July 1, 1980, and led the school to be recognized as one of the Nation's outstanding schools of engineering.

Dr. Pister has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards. He was twice selected as a Fulbright Scholar, first, in the Department of Mathematical Physics, University College, Cork, Ireland, and then in the Institute for Statics and Dynamics of Aerospace Structures, University of Stuttgart, West Germany. He also was awarded the Wason Medal for Research by the American Concrete Institution, and in 1982, was the recipient of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, College of Engineering Alumni Honor Award for distinguished service in engineering. In 1988 he was presented with the Vincent Bendix Award for minorities in engineering by the American Society for Engineering Education, and in 1993 he was bestowed the highest honor by the society, the Benjamin Garver Lamme Medal, for his contributions to engineering education. He also was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Engineering Alumni Society of the College of Engineering, University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Pister has also served the University of California in many other ways. He held the position as chairman of the committees on Senate Policy and Educational Policy of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, and also served as chairman of the University Committee on Education Policy. From 1978 to 1980 he was vice-chairman and chairman of the nine-campus Academic Council and Assembly of the Academic Senate and faculty representative to the board of regents of the University of California.

Dr. Pister is also a member of numerous engineering academies and associations. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, and is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Academy of Mechanics, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Pister is also an honorary fellow of the California Academy of Sciences.

He currently serves as chairman of the board of directors of the California Council on Science and Technology and is a member of the board of directors for the Monterey Bay

Aquarium Research Institute and the board of trustees of the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute and of the board of trustees of the Monterey Institute of International Studies. Pister also serves as chairman of the board of Engineering Education and is a member of the Coordinating Council for Education of the National Research Council.

In addition to my honoring of Dr. Pister's numerous accolades and accomplishments, I would also like to pay tribute to a man of great character. He has made a commitment to a continued vision to lead and a compassion to listen in order to best contribute to the advancement of science and the advancement of our society and Nation. I wish him well in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA O'TOOLE
BAILEY

HON. WILLIAM H. ZELIFF, JR.

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. ZELIFF. Mr. Speaker, let me extend my sincerest congratulations and gratitude to a wonderful woman who is retiring today after a very fulfilling and successful career. Mrs. Virginia O'Toole Bailey has been serving the community of North Conway, NH, for 17 years as the John Fuller Elementary School Nurse.

Over the last 17 years, Mrs. Bailey has provided an invaluable service and has established a strong bond with North Conway and surrounding communities. Mrs. Bailey has looked after and taken care of our children's playground cuts and bruises when we, as parents, could not be there. She has been the security blanket that so many young people need at such a young age.

For all these reasons, I would like to thank Mrs. Virginia O'Toole Bailey on behalf of myself, the students and staff of John Fuller Elementary, the parents, and the town of North Conway for 17 great years of caring and dedication. I also offer my gratitude as a Representative of New Hampshire and I am sure I speak for all my colleagues here in Congress when I say congratulations. Mrs. Bailey will be greatly missed at John Fuller Elementary School.

TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE B.
ALPORT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to a celebrated community servant, Mr. Lawrence B. Alport. On Monday, June 24, 1996, Lawrence's friends and family will gather to celebrate his installation as president of B'nai B'rith District 2. The installation banquet will be held at The Radisson Hotel at Star Plaza in Merrillville, IN.

Since he first joined the organization in 1980, Lawrence has proven to be a great leader within B'nai B'rith. For the past year, Lawrence served as president-elect, as well as a member of the board of governors. Law-

rence also served for 3 years as vice president. Lawrence currently serves as vice-chairman for B'nai B'rith's international Community Volunteer Service, and he has held this position for 9 years. Previously, Lawrence served on B'nai B'rith's Membership Cabinet, Fundraising Cabinet, and Leadership Cabinet. In addition, Lawrence served as the president of the Indiana State Association for B'nai B'rith. For B'nai B'rith's America Lodge No. 90, Lawrence served as president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

We are all fortunate to have dedicated people, like Lawrence, involved in the community of Indiana's First Congressional District. In addition to his involvement with B'nai B'rith, Lawrence is a board member of Hoosier Boys Town. He also served as a board member for Northwest Indiana Family Services where he was president for 3 years.

Professionally, Lawrence is the president of David Lawrence Enterprises, Inc., a company he founded in 1993. David Lawrence Enterprises specializes in energy conservation and indoor air quality equipment for manufacturers.

B'nai B'rith is the world's oldest and largest Jewish organization with members in 55 countries. B'nai B'rith has been in existence for over 150 years. District 2 consists of eight surrounding States including Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Kansas, Missouri, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico. Locally, B'nai B'rith America Lodge No. 90, which covers all of northwest Indiana, sponsors several community events. Lodge No. 90, which has a B'nai B'rith youth organization, has taken children to baseball games and sponsored a brotherhood essay contest for elementary and junior high students. Lodge No. 90 has also sponsored a teddy bear drive to help acquire teddy bears for hospitals.

I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Lawrence and his wife, Jane Harper Alport, on the eve of his installation as president of B'nai B'rith District 2. They can be proud as Lawrence works hard to preserve Jewish culture while improving the quality of life for Indiana's First Congressional District. I sincerely wish Lawrence a long, happy, and successful term.

LEGISLATION DISAPPROVING THE
NRC FROM LOCATING A NU-
CLEAR WASTE FACILITY

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with other concerned Members of Congress to introduce legislation which amends the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 to prohibit the licensing of a permanent or interim nuclear waste storage facility outside the 50 States. Specifically, this bill would preclude the Nuclear Regulatory Commission from issuing a license for the storage of radioactive waste or spent nuclear fuel in any of the U.S. territories. Senator DANIEL AKAKA has already introduced a companion bill, S. 1878, in the U.S. Senate.

I have grown increasingly troubled by statements and presentations that have been made by a New York City investment firm, KVR, Inc., that earlier this year made an offer for Palmyra Island, an atoll of more than 40 islets

1,000 miles south of Hawaii. Initially, it was reported that KVR, Inc. talked about using Palmyra for scientific research and hotel development of some kind. However, recent events make it evident that KVR, Inc. wants to use Palmyra for a repository of radioactive waste.

KVR, Inc. has been circulating draft legislation among the administration and Members of Congress to locate a radioactive waste site on a Pacific atoll. According to representative from KVR, Inc. Palmyra is on a short list of candidate sites being considered.

I want to state for the record that I am unequivocally against this initiative.

In order to locate the site at Palmyra the draft legislation waives compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act in regard to the preparation of the environmental impact statement and the Clean Water Act to dredging.

Siting a radioactive waste facility is a serious matter. The environmental consequences cannot be ignored. For too long the Pacific community has been used as a nuclear dumping ground. The United States tested nuclear devices in the Marshall Islands, and we are all having to deal with the enormous costs associated with these tests. More recently, the Government of France conducted a series of nuclear tests at the Moruroa and Fangatauga atolls in the South Pacific, which was opposed by over 160 nations.

Mr. Speaker, my bill is preemptive strike against proposals to designate a radioactive waste site in the Pacific. KVR, Inc. attempts to achieve a laudable goal but at an enormous cost. I want to advise my colleagues that any attempt to go forward with the KVR, Inc. proposal will be vigorously and vehemently opposed.

MASS EVICTION UNIQUE TO SMOKIES

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I thought the following recent article from the Asheville Citizen Times about the formation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park might be of great interest to some of my colleagues and many readers of the RECORD.

MASS EVICTION UNIQUE TO SMOKIES

(By Clarke Morrison)

As a birthday gift on an August day in 1970, Glenn Cardwell drove his 85-year-old father back in time to a place that had been their home.

The sight of the beautiful cove, absent the farmsteads and families that once dotted the rolling landscape, prompted a pained recollection of the forced exodus that cleared the way for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

"He said the thing he hated most was losing our neighbors," Cardwell said of his father, Bill, who died a few months after the visit. "You can buy a farm anywhere, but tearing up your community does something to your spirit."

The Cardwells lived at the mouth of Greenbriar Cove near the park's northern boundary, and so were among the last to have their land condemned by the government. They watched as friends and relations moved on.

"They went different directions where the winds of interest were blowing," said Cardwell, a supervisory park ranger who will retire in September. "Some to Virginia, some to Georgia . . . Ten families went to New Mexico. My sadness was watching them leaving us. I remember a lot of them hugging my mother and father and crying."

This mass eviction distinguishes the Smokies, home to farms and communities for more than 100 years, from all but a few national parks. For other major parks such as Yellowstone, Congress merely carved them out of lands already owned by the government. And for the most part, these were places where no one wanted to live anyway.

But land in the mountains of Western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee was owned by hundreds of small farmers and several large timber and paper companies. The Smokies was the first national park to be created totally from privately owned land.

Quite understandably, the farmers didn't want to be pushed out of the family homesteads where they had lived and tilled the soil for decades, and the companies were reluctant to abandon their timber reserves, miles of railroad tracks, systems of logging equipment and villages of employee housing.

There were an estimated 1,200 to 1,400 families that had to be moved out, said Tom Robbins, a park ranger and historian who gives programs at the Oconaluftee Visitors Center near Cherokee.

"Obviously there were hard feelings all the way around, and still are," he said. "People were uprooted."

"Some people tried to look at it from a positive standpoint, particularly those who had farms that were sort of played out. But plenty of people had no desire to sell, but had no choice. It was particularly hard on some of the older people. They figured that was where they were going to die and be buried."

SEEDS OF THE PARK

The idea of a public land preserve in the Southern Appalachians started in the late 1800s, and by the early 20th century the federal government was under pressure to make the concept a reality.

The strongest supporters were based in Asheville and Knoxville, Tenn., and the two groups were competitors over the location of the park. Finally they put aside their differences and agreed it should be in the heart of the Smokies, halfway between the two cities.

The movement was spurred in large part not by conservationists, backpackers or fishermen, but by motorists. Members of newly formed auto clubs wanted good roads through beautiful scenery on which they could drive their cars.

LEGISLATION APPROVED

In May of 1926, President Calvin Coolidge signed a bill that provided for the creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Virginia's Shenandoah National Park. The legislation allowed the U.S. Department of the Interior to assume responsibility for a park in the Smokies as soon as 150,000 acres of land had been bought.

But the government was not allowed to buy land for national parks, so boosters had to turn their attention to raising money. In the late 1920s the legislatures of North Carolina and Tennessee each appropriated \$2 million for land purchases, while individuals and groups contributed another \$1 million. But by 1928, the price of the land had doubled and the fund-raising campaign came to a halt.

Finally the needed funds were in hand when a major foundation endowed by John D. Rockefeller pledged \$5 million.

However, even with the money in hand, actually acquiring the land proved a tedious

task. There were some 6,600 tracts that had to be surveyed, appraised and their price haggled over. Many times, the land had to be condemned in court.

It was tough for many to leave their homes and their ways of life. Some, particularly if they were too old or sick to move, were allowed to remain under lifetime leases. Others were granted shorter leases, but they could not cut timber, hunt or trap.

The park's first superintendent arrived in 1931. Three years later North Carolina and Tennessee transferred deeds for about 300,000 acres to the federal government, and Congress authorized the development of park facilities.

Standing at the Rockefeller Monument at Newfound Gap on the North Carolina-Tennessee line in September 1940, President Franklin Roosevelt formally dedicated the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

THE PARK'S DEVELOPMENT

By then, much of the early work to develop the park had been accomplished by the Civilian Conservation Corps, an agency formed during the Depression to provide work for the legions of unemployment.

At its peak in the late '30s, the CCC had more than 4,300 young men building roads, trails, stone bridges and fire towers, the park's first campgrounds, as well as the Oconaluftee Visitor Center on the North Carolina side and the park headquarters in Tennessee.

"There wouldn't have been any early development of the park without the CCC," Robbins said.

Work on the park stopped in the early 1940s when America entered World War II, and the National Park Service's budget was cut drastically.

Robbins said the Smokies and the country's other parks saw no significant funding until the mid-'50s when Congress infused the agency with new money for a major, 10-year recovery program.

And the Smokies benefited. It was during that time that the observation tower on Clingmans Dome and the Sugarlands Visitor Center were constructed. Campgrounds and other facilities were renovated.

Since then, it's been a matter of maintenance. Little new has been built in the park over the past 30 years, and the old structures become more worn and in need of repair with each passing year.

WALTER MERCADO: HE MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Walter Mercado, an icon of the Nation's Latino community. For 26 years, Mr. Mercado has worked tirelessly and selflessly to bring his message of peace, hope, and love to millions of his followers throughout the world and to the Latino community, in particular. I am pleased to note that he will visit my hometown, Union City, on June 21, 1996.

Walter Mercado was born in Puerto Rico. During his youth, he had a great yearning for knowledge. He immersed himself in the arts, studying Spanish dance, ballet, painting, voice, recitation, oratory, music, and acting. Later he came to New York to study under the legendary acting teacher Sanford Meisner. He went on to become one of Puerto Rico's most celebrated and distinguished actors.