

TRIBUTE TO REV. DAVID A.
MUELLER

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 1996

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, Rev. David Mueller has devoted the past 32 years of his life to parish ministry, including 15 years of service at Concordia Lutheran Church in south Dade County.

This Sunday, September 15, Reverend Mueller will retire from his full-time parish ministry and this will be marked by a special service at Concordia. Along with his wife Cassie, his children, Paul and Becky, and his brother and sister, the congregation will be joined by his former classmate Rev. Ronald Schuette in recognizing Reverend Mueller's contributions.

Reverend Mueller has provided leadership based on faith and compassion throughout the past three decades. He has served as a chaplain to the men and women of three branches of our armed services, the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. He ministered to our troops in Vietnam, where he was present during the Tet offensive, and later to those who serve in the U.S. Coast Guard. As a reservist, Reverend Mueller pioneered the circuit-riding ministry with the 7th District Coast Guard cutters and was awarded the Coast Guard Achievement Medal in 1989 for this work. The Lutheran Church also recognized his work with the Bronze Saint Martin of Tours Medal.

South Florida has been the primary beneficiary of Reverend Mueller's labors. His first assignment, following graduation from Concordia Seminary in 1964, was to develop congregations in the Florida Keys. After serving as an active-duty chaplain, he returned to south Florida in 1975 as pastor of Concordia in Kendall.

Reverend Mueller has also been active in the field of human care ministry. In addition to his theological education, he was awarded a master's degree in counseling from the University of Miami. Reverend Mueller has served as director of Christian counseling for the Christian Community Service Agency in Miami.

He has lent his background and leadership to a number of community efforts, including the Lutheran Disaster Response which worked to ease the suffering inflicted by Hurricane Andrew.

As he lays down the burdens of full-time parish ministry, Reverend Mueller will now devote himself to pastoral counseling, as well as temporarily serving as a vacancy pastor at Mount Olive Lutheran Church and School in Perrine. While all the members of his congregation will miss him, the example he has set will continue to be felt in the years to come. Reverend Mueller can look back over his years of work and say, in the words of Saint Paul, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

THE CLUSTER RULE FOR THE
PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRY

HON. JAMES A. HAYES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 1996

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, since it was first proposed in 1993, I have been one of the most outspoken critics of the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] effort to institute comprehensive regulations of air emission and water effluent limitations for the pulp and paper industry.

The Clean Air Act of 1990 mandates the EPA set standards based upon maximum achievable control technology [MACT] for new and existing standards for 189 hazardous pollutants listed in the act. Similarly, the Clean Water Act authorizes the EPA to regularly amend effluent requirements that establish restrictions on the types and volume of pollutants that industrial facilities may discharge. Subsequently, in October 1993, EPA promulgated rules specifically designed to combine or cluster these requirements with respect to regulating the pulp and paper industry. This so-called cluster rule has become a prime example of how Federal regulators lose sight of the big picture and waste taxpayers dollars by working against the regulated community instead of with it to protect the environment.

Since agreeing to analyze industry collected data, the process has accelerated and run much more smoothly and unobtrusively. Yet, EPA is at it again by offering two possible best available technology [BAT] alternatives that their own data indicates are almost \$1 billion apart for virtually identical environmental benefit. Substantial further investments in capital improvements without accounting for industry input will further jeopardize workers and their families for negligible environmental gain.

The substitution of chlorine dioxide for chlorine or Option A is already voluntarily being implemented across the country to enhance environmental effectiveness and is supported by both employers and employees throughout the pulp and paper industry. Although never a consequential source of dioxins, since 1985, the industry has decreased the amount of dioxins generated by almost 90 percent. The more costly options B could end up costing pulp, paper, and forestry operations in Louisiana alone an estimated \$133 million more than option A.

The pulp, paper, and forestry industry is the second largest manufacturing sector in Louisiana. The industry employs nearly 27,000 workers earning almost \$900 million.

Common sense, therefore, dictates that an industry that is this important to the past, present, and certainly the future economic good fortune of our State and its citizens merits praise, not punishment. The industry has been progressive in its commitment to the stewardship of our natural resources in Louisiana. Option A along with the appropriate voluntary incentive program will afford the pulp, paper, and forestry industry, employers and workers alike, the opportunity to better contribute to Louisiana's economy, provide for their families, and protect our environment. After all, in Louisiana, our marshes, our rivers, and our bayous as well as our great wilderness and the wildlife that resides there are not only a recreational delight but an economic necessity.

With all this in mind, I urge EPA to break from its inherent institutional culture and institute option A.

TRIBUTE TO THE NORTHPORT
VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL
CENTER AND THE NASSAU/SUF-
FOLK CHAPTER OF AMERICAN
EX-PRISONERS OF WAR IN
HONOR OF THE 1996 POW/MIA
RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 1996

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Northport Veterans Affairs Medical Center and the Nassau/Suffolk County Chapter of American Ex-Prisoners of War, in honor of the 1996 POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony they are sponsoring on Monday, September 16, in Northport, Long Island, NY.

Joining Commander Martin Andrews of the Nassau/Suffolk Chapter of American Ex-Prisoners of War and Director E.M. Travers, M.D. of the Northport Veterans Affairs Medical Center will be former prisoners of war, who will share their own personal accounts of their time in captivity.

I strongly believe the Federal Government has a sacred responsibility to determine, to the fullest extent possible, the fate of our missing military personnel and to share that information with their family. That's why we must provide due process for those who are desperately seeking the true fate of their loved ones and establish accountability measures for all American military service personnel who become missing in action or prisoners of war.

As a former prisoner of war, Commander Andrews knows firsthand the personal pain and suffering of being imprisoned by a war-time foe. That's why he and his wife volunteer at the Northport VA Medical Center's VIP (Very Important Patient/Persons) Customer Service Enhancement Program, to give something back to these true American patriots. The VIP Program recognizes valuable employees and volunteers as ambassadors who are committed to improving service to our veterans.

VA-VIP ambassadors greet visitors, answer questions about the medical center, provide directions and assistance to those needing help getting from their car, and provide care and courtesy to all visitors. This is the kind of program our brave service men and women have earned the right to expect and deserve.

As we gather together on September 16 to pay the highest honor and tribute to ex-prisoners of war like Arnold Bocksel, who will be on hand to give his own personal reflections of his time in captivity, I call upon my fellow Members of Congress to join me in expressing personal heartfelt thanks and gratitude for their outstanding service to our country.

Thank you Commander Andrews, Senior Vice Commander Thomas McGee, Junior Vice Commander Raymond Ives, and all members of the Nassau/Suffolk Chapter of American Ex-Prisoners of War, we are all glad to have you back.