

TRIBUTE TO DETECTIVE NICHOLAS
SALERNO, BERWYN, IL POLICE
DEPARTMENT

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a law enforcement officer who had been recognized for his community involvement—Detective Nicholas Salerno of the Berwyn, Illinois Police Department.

Detective Salerno, an 18-year veteran of the force, was honored with the Cook County Sheriff's Award for Merit in recognition of his involvement with his community. A member of the Department's Juvenile Unit, Detective Salerno has been active with the Drug Abuse Resistance Education [DARE] program in the city.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Detective Salerno and all the other law enforcement officers who go above and beyond the call of duty to help the young people of their communities.

HONORING DR. LINDA MILLER

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Fairfax County's finest teachers. Dr. Linda Miller is being honored by the Organization of American Historians as cowinner of the 1996 Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau Pre-Collegiate Teaching Award. This award recognizes the contributions made by pre-collegiate teachers to improve history education and is given for activities which enhance the intellectual development of other history teachers and/or students. The award named for the late Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau of the University of Louisville, memorializes her career, especially her pathbreaking efforts to build bridges between university and pre-collegiate history teachers.

Dr. Miller has been teaching in the Fairfax County Public School System since 1972. She started as a substitute teacher at various schools throughout the County. In 1973 she was a reading aide at Lake Braddock Secondary School. From 1974 to 1978 she taught social studies—civics—at Mark Twain Intermediate and Herndon Intermediate School served on summer curriculum committees developing map skills.

From 1978 to the present Dr. Miller has been teaching at Fairfax High School where her classes include American Government, Political Science, gifted and talented world cultures, gifted and talented American Government, Advanced Placement European history, and world cultures.

Dr. Miller's love of teaching is reflected not only by her receiving this award, but by instilling in her students an enthusiasm for government. At a time when public opinion of government and politics is low, Dr. Miller's dedication and success in educating her students and making American Government come alive, is a welcome addition.

Dr. Miller's education is extensive she holds a Bachelor of Science in Education and Social

Studies from the University of Kansas. She received a Master of Arts in Education in 1978. She received a Doctorate in Education from the University of Virginia in 1991.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Dr. Miller for her honor and thanking her for her many years of dedicated service teaching in Fairfax County. We wish her much success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO REV. JOSE DA SILVA
FERREIRA

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding individual, Rev. Jose da Silva Ferreira on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

Father Ferreira was ordained on February 25, 1956, in the Vila Real Cathedral and began his religious life as an assistant pastor. His leadership qualities became apparent when he was appointed pastor Vilela do Tamega, Chaves 1 year later. After 16 years as pastor, he emigrated to the United States. During his tenure as administrator of St. Anthony's Church in Cambridge, MA, Father Ferreira played a critical role in the planning and construction of a new rectory and parish center. After serving as pastor in both Lawrence and Lowell, MA, he was appointed pastor of St. Anthony's Church on August 10, 1995.

Throughout his lifetime of service to his church and community, Father Ferreira has displayed outstanding compassion and dedication to others. As pastor, Father Ferreira has gained the admiration of his parishioners by providing spiritual leadership for his neighbors and community. He is a man of humility, dedication, and hard work. I am pleased to have this opportunity to honor the outstanding life and career of such an inspirational individual.

PRESERVE ONE NATION,
INDIVISIBLE

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, on occasions too numerous to count during my first year in Congress I have heard Members of Congress suggest that many of the activities of the Federal Government should be eliminated or pushed back to the States. As a Californian, I have listened with some incredulity to the opinion that our 50 Governors now seem to be viewed by some as the repository of governmental wisdom. This astonishing view seems to be that State bureaucracies are somehow preferable to Federal ones.

Aside from this viewpoint, however, there are fundamental questions posed by the helter-skelter rush to defederalize. I would like to share the view of Dr. John Collins, as printed in the Bakersfield Californian. Dr. Collins, a combat veteran of World War II and the retired chancellor of the Kern County Community Col-

lege points out that while it is popular to bash government, we are the premier country in the world and that is not an accident, but the product of doing something right.

Dr. Collins is not only a respected member of his community, he is my father-in-law. I know him as someone not only who is a loved family member, but the kind of American who those of us in Congress should listen to. Like the rest of his generation, he suffered the poverty of America in the Depression; he helped save our country and the world from totalitarianism during World War II; he achieved professional success through education and then dedicated his life not only to raising a good family, but to helping his community have educational opportunities. His wisdom is gained through experience and we should list- ed carefully to his admonition that we are the United States, not these United States.

The remarks of Dr. John Collins follow, as they appeared in the Community Voices section of the January 22, 1996 edition of the Bakersfield Californian:

PRESERVE "ONE NATION, INDIVISIBLE"

The history of the United States has its roots in the British colonies, which though of themselves as semi-autonomous little nations. When these colonies became states with the adoption of the Constitution in 1789, they continued to view themselves as part of a loose union of separate entities. This view was held in spite of the disastrous experience with the Articles of Confederation, which provided for no strong central government.

For 200 years we have been torn between those who want the states to be ascendant and those who see the need for a dominant central government. Before the Civil War, the term "these United States" was in common usage. When in 1861 Robert E. Lee, a colonel in the United States Army, was offered the position of general-in-chief of the Union armies, he said he could not turn his back on his country. By that he meant Virginia, not the United States.

Prior to the Civil War, there had been a serious governmental crisis over nullification wherein one state, South Carolina, took the position that a state could nullify a federal law (tariff in this instance). Andrew Jackson stood firm and the central government prevailed.

Also, in the early days of our history as a nation there were a number of Supreme Court rulings which gave precedence to the central government. However, the issue of "states' rights" seemed never to get settled.

When Lincoln was elected as the first Republican president, his election precipitated the secession of 11 Southern states from the Union. This formation of the Confederate States of America was the extreme position with regard to "state rights."

The South argued that states had the right to authority of what they viewed as a hostile central government.

A great civil war ensued that lasted four years, with more than 1 million casualties. Lincoln steadfastly and successfully conducted the Civil War to save the Union—to preserve the country as one nation, indivisible. His enormous and enduring contribution was and is that we have one country, not two, or four, or even 50.

However, in time the old dispute over "state rights" surfaced again, and again, and again, right up to 1996. We see now the spectacle of people who represent their states or districts serving in the United States Congress preaching "states' rights."

They want to turn over to the states responsibilities that have resided with the central government for many years. This

isn't a new argument, but it is startling coming at this late date, when we can see the terrible effects of parochialism and tribalism around the world.

Lincoln saved us from Balkanization. He made sure that it is "the United States," not "these United States." Our debt to Lincoln is huge, and we should not be persuaded easily that it is better to have 50 different policies on the environment, civil rights, Social Security, health services and many other central government functions.

It is popular now to bash the government. But over the long haul of history the government has served us well. It isn't an accident that we are the premier country in the world, the only superpower. We achieved that status because we have a good system of government. Democracy isn't an easy system. There are all kinds of tugging and pulling as we continue to give everyone a voice.

Let's not kill the goose that laid the golden egg. Let's not turn the future of this country over to 50 state legislatures. Let's keep one nation, indivisible.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH MRAZ,
FORMER BERWYN, IL, ALDERMAN

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated former public servant from my district who recently passed away—Mr. Ralph Mraz.

Mr. Mraz served as an alderman in Berwyn, IL, as well as a market auditor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture for 35 years before his retirement. He also was co-founder of the Life and Savings and Loan Association of America.

However, he was best known for obtaining Mraz Park in Berwyn, which was named in honor of his father, Fred.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my condolences to Mr. Mraz's widow, Lucille, his children, grandchildren, and all his friends.

HONORING DANIEL J. O'CONNOR

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, when I was growing up in Oakland, CA, crime was something I only read about in the papers. Yet in our day, the grim realities of lawbreaking are all too commonplace in each of our communities.

That is why I am especially pleased to recognize the contributions of one of California's finest to making the bay area's streets and neighborhoods safer. Sergeant Daniel J. O'Connor began his law enforcement career in 1962 when he joined the Concord, CA police department. He was appointed to the Bay Area Rapid Transit [BART] Police Department in 1973, and achieved the rank of sergeant in 1976. His 34 years of service have been a testimony to his devotion to duty and his commitment to the people of California.

As he prepares to retire in March, it is my hope that he will be encouraged by many good memories of his years of faithful service.

His friends on the force will miss him, and his example of fidelity and dedication will continue to remind those who have worked with him of the vital importance of service in the public interest.

I wish Sergeant O'Connor the very best for many years of productive and enjoyable retirement, and am pleased to recognize this fine public servant in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

COMMENDING THE VETERANS OF
UNDERAGE MILITARY SERVICE
INC.

HON. OWEN B. PICKETT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an often unacknowledged group of veterans that deserves recognition. Each of the members of this group joined the military and fought to defend this country before they were of legal age to do so. These brave and courageous young men have been represented in every war in which the United States has been involved. Most of the current members fought in World War II.

These veterans have established an organization of their own, entitled "Veterans of Underage Military Service, Inc." which is recognized as a nonprofit organization by the IRS and U.S. Postal Service. They have recently honored Adm. J.M. "Mike" Boorda, USN, the highest ranking underage enlistee on active duty, who joined the Navy when he was 16 years old.

The Second District of Virginia which I represent, is fortunate to be the home of one of the officers of the Virginia chapter of the Veterans of Underage Military Service, Inc., Mr. Thomas C. Hise. Tom Hise's work on behalf of this organization has contributed to the recognition it has received by obtaining laudatory proclamations from Virginia municipal and State governments.

Mr. Speaker, I request permission to insert into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the House joint resolution adopted by the Virginia General Assembly commending members of the Veterans of Underage Military Service, Inc.

All Americans applaud the determination and patriotism shown by these underage enlistees and express gratitude and appreciation for their honorable service to our country.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA GENERAL
ASSEMBLY; HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 327

Whereas, throughout history, nations have called upon their youth to fight their wars, and it is inevitable that some young men and women under the age of 17, usually driven by strong patriotism, have enlisted in the armed forces; and

Whereas, in some instances, these youths were discovered and separated from the service, sometimes after they had already seen action and performed heroically; and

Whereas, the Veterans of Underage Military Service, Inc., was formed in 1990 to help such individuals who were frequently discharged from the service and stripped of their awards and their military benefits; and

Whereas, the primary goals of the organization are to contact all veterans who served in any branch of the United States armed forces when they were under 17 years of age and to advise and assist them in obtaining a proper discharge and their veteran's benefits; and

Whereas, a secondary goal is to establish a historical record of underage veterans by publishing their names, their deeds, and their stories; and

Whereas, the organization currently consists of over 600 veterans who served in the armed forces before they were 17; and

Whereas, three Medal of Honor winners who enlisted before they were 17 have been identified; and

Whereas, the officers of the Virginia chapter of the Veterans of Underage Military Service, Inc., Bobby Lee Pettit and Thomas C. Hise, both served in the armed forces before they were old enough to enlist, legally; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Veterans of Underage Military Service, Inc., for their attempts to locate and assist all underage veterans of America's armed forces; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Bobby Lee Pettit, Commander of the Virginia chapter of the Veterans of Underage Military Service, Inc., as an expression of the support of the General Assembly for the worthy goals of this organization.

BRODER REBUTS EXCESSIVE
CYNICISM

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have long felt that the most damaging form of naivete is excessive cynicism. No where is that better illustrated than in the current grossly distorted discussion of the influence of campaign contributions on public policy. The view that campaign contributions dominate most policy outcomes is a dangerously mistaken one. It is a complete lack of sophistication about the political process masquerading as the ultimate tough mindedness. And it is not only gravely wrong to argue that campaign contributions are the major factor in most policy outcomes, it is self-defeating. To the extent that citizens do believe that elected officials care little about votes and public opinion, not to mention the merits of the issues, and instead are driven largely by campaign contributions in making decisions, those citizens will be discouraged from voicing the opinions which are in fact the single greatest influence in our public policy deliberations.

In his column in the Washington Post for Wednesday, January 31, David Broder very effectively makes this point with a trenchant and cogent analysis of the recent PBS "Frontline" program on campaign financing.

That program, entitled "So You Want To Buy A President" seems to have perpetuated the mythic view that campaign finance is all important in deciding public policy debates. David Broder who knows better, demonstrates the fallacy of this reasoning in his column. Because it is important that citizens not be encouraged to fall into the trap of believing that their efforts will have no influence in the face of campaign contributions, I ask that David Broder's very important article be printed here.

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 31, 1996]

"FRONTLINE'S" EXERCISE IN EXAGGERATION

(By David S. Broder)

As if the cynicism about politics were not deep enough already, PBS's "Frontline" last