

with the great famine. Together we have worked hard to insure that the people of Ireland never again face such terrible hardships, and depravation of basic human rights and human dignity.

We must also all continue to work for a permanent end to the troubles in Ireland, through a just and lasting peace. I know we will eventually see lasting peace and justice a permanent feature on that beautiful Emerald Isle in the Irish Sea. It is the hope and dream of all of us as we approach St. Patrick's Day once again.

TRIBUTE TO ROSA LIVERPOOL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the Borough of Brooklyn is fortunate to have Rosa Liverpool as a citizen. Rosa has been an achiever in spite of adversity. She was the first African-American graduate from the Slovak Girls Academy, and subsequently earned her undergraduate degree from Mercy College, and her master's degree in counseling from Manhattan College.

After receiving her degrees, Rosa began working for the city of New York. She has particular expertise in early identification and reporting of abuse and neglect of children. In 1979 Rosa began working with patients and their families who were addicted to opiates. Presently, Ms. Liverpool is the district guidance counselor for community school district 19. She is also the child abuse and neglect liaison as well as the suicide prevention specialist for district 19. Rosa has been actively involved in the east New York community of Brooklyn.

Ms. Liverpool chairs the education committee for the Rosetta Gaston Foundation, and is also a member of community board No. 5. She has worked with local storeowners to provide donations for block activities, and coordinated job fairs for east New York residents. Rosa leads by her example, and is destined to leave a lasting legacy.

ROSE TUCKER HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to pay tribute to my good friend and a distinguished community leader, Mrs. Rose Tucker. Mrs. Tucker has just completed a term as a member of the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners and will be honored for her service at a testimonial on March 1, 1996. It is my deep honor to join the many friends and colleagues of this extraordinary woman, who has earned a very special place in the history of Luzerne County.

Rose Tucker hails from my hometown, Nanticoke, PA. With a strong northeastern PA. With a strong northeastern Pennsylvanian upbringing and education, Rose committed much of her life to serving her community. At the beginning of her long career, Rose was at the

forefront of providing much needed services to migrant workers in northeastern Pennsylvania. In 1973, she became a human services planner for the United Services Agency. Her interests then led her to become the executive director of the Luzerne-Wyoming Counties Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program. In 1979, Rose initiated and implemented the Community Cancer Corp. of Luzerne County under the auspices of the Luzerne County Medical Society. In 1982, Rose proved her business acumen by owning and operating a successful travel agency in Pittston, PA.

During this time, Rose furthered her commitment to ensuring health care for northeastern and central Pennsylvanians. In 1989, Rose became the director of public affairs for the Maternal and Health Services Corp. which cares for individuals and families in 15 counties throughout the region.

Mr. Speaker, in 1992 Rose Tucker took on her greatest challenge. She sought and was elected to the board of commissioners of Luzerne County. A year later, she was elected to chair the board. As one of the three chief executives of Luzerne County, Rose faced the challenge of governing a county confronting many difficult decisions. As an advocate of economic development in the region, Rose was responsible for bringing new jobs and opportunities to the county. She understood the importance of changing the coal town image of our area and preparing the county for the 21st century. Rose managed to exert strong leadership while maintaining her close connection to the people of Luzerne County, and her dedication to the people she served is greatly appreciated. She is truly a beloved public figure.

Mr. Speaker, I have known Rose Tucker for many years and consider myself fortunate to be included among her many friends. While facing the daily challenges of elected office, Rose endured the agony of watching her husband, Leonard, battle cancer. My wife Nancy and I joined Rose, her friends, and family in mourning his passing.

I am extremely proud to have the opportunity to pay tribute to the career of this distinguished public servant. It has been my pleasure to bring Rose's many accomplishments to the attention of my colleagues. The entire community thanks Rose Tucker for a job well done, and wishes her the very best.

TRIBUTE TO HANDGUN CONTROL ADVOCATE RICHARD M. ABORN

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an esteemed colleague and courageous public citizen, Mr. Richard Aborn, who has helped me and others lead the charge for tougher handgun laws. On the eve of his retirement from Handgun Control, Inc., he has inspired everyone committed to improving law enforcement policy in the United States. For all of those who work toward making our communities safe, from police officers, to neighborhood groups, Richard has provided the vision and the leadership needed to encourage all in their quest for a society free from gun violence and destruction.

As an advocate for gun control since 1979, Richard worked at the Manhattan District Attorney's office, where he prosecuted homicide and gun distribution cases. His interest in reforming our Nation's weak gun laws motivated him to volunteer for Handgun Control, Inc., and in 1992 was elected president. He was also selected as president of the Center To Prevent Handgun Violence, working in tandem with Handgun Control to develop comprehensive handgun control policies. As one of the principal strategists behind passage of the Brady bill and the assault weapons ban, Richard worked against the odds to surprise the pundits and help these crucial laws on the books. He has also used his immeasurable energy and influence to lobby for gun control measures at the State and local level.

Not only has Richard contributed to reducing gun violence at the Federal level, but he has also been instrumental in establishing New York City's STAR Program—Straight Talk About Risks—the Nation's only prekindergarten through 12th grade program designed to reduce gun injuries through education. This ingenious program addresses gun violence before it starts. His contribution to New York City serves as a model for all concerned citizens wishing to stop violence in their own communities.

Throughout my entire public career I have rarely met anyone with more conviction to a specific cause than Richard. His remarkable dedication resulted in landmark laws that have made our streets and schools safer. I would like to personally thank him for his time, energy, and spirit in helping me and others begin to realize our dream of living in a society free from guns and violence. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring him as he completes his time as president of Handgun Control.

TRIBUTE TO TUSHIA N. FISHER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Ms. Tushia N. Fisher who is employed as a special assistant to the New York State Senate minority leader, Martin Connor. She is a student enrolled in the State University of New York Empire State College, in a combined master's degree program in political science.

Tushia is a remarkable example of a 1990's woman, dedicated to her family, striving to improve herself as a single parent, and dedicated to improving and empowering her community. Tushia believes that children are our future. She has embarked on a campaign, starting with her 6-year-old son Jamere Jamison, to improve the plight of African-American youth. Her efforts include volunteering at the Interfaith Hospital holiday drive, as well as the City Kids Foundation. Additionally, Tushia is an active member of Concord Baptist Church. She provides a wonderful example for single and dedicated parents about how to pursue personal and professional development while providing volunteer service to her community. I am happy to cite this wonderful community success story.

TWILIGHT OF THE THUGS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today's *Washington Post* has an excellent column by the Post's distinguished diplomatic correspondent, Jim Hoagland. He discusses the recent incidents involving a series of "rogue regimes," the international outlaw countries which are a threat to global peace and stability. He rightfully points out that we must keep the focus on the leaders of these regimes and their outrageous policies and not let minor differences over how to deal with these dictators distort the fundamental agreement that exists among most Americans.

Mr. Speaker, these rogue regimes represent the most serious threat to U.S. interests and policies in the world, and it is essential that we take strong action to deal with these countries. These states support and sponsor terrorism; they create instability in their regions through destabilizing policies toward their neighbors; they seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction and sell such weapons to other rogue regimes; they violate the human rights of their own citizens. The list of such countries is not long, but it includes Libya, Iran, Iraq, North Korea, Sudan, and Cuba.

As my colleagues know, with my distinguished colleague from New York, Mr. KING, I have introduced legislation that would put this House on record by condemning the visit of Louis Farrakhan to several of these rogue regimes, including Libya, Iran, and Iraq. It also calls on the President to direct executive agencies to determine if the Farrakhan visit and the actions that follow that visit—such as the reported gift from Libya's Qadhafi of \$1 billion for Farrakhan's use in the United States—violate United States laws and, if that is the case, to prosecute vigorously such violations.

Mr. Hoagland made this observation regarding Farrakhan's grand tour of terrorist states: "Keep the focus on the Friends of Farrakhan. Make it clear that any financial transactions between the rogues and any Americans, including Farrakhan, will be investigated and if warranted prosecuted. President Clinton should not remain silent on the minister's travels."

I could not agree more with Mr. Hoagland. And—I would also add—the Congress should not remain silent on Farrakhan's travels. I invite my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring our resolution to condemn the Farrakhan tour of the terrorist states.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Jim Hoagland's column be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to read his excellent analysis.

[From the *Washington Post*, Feb. 29, 1996]

TWILIGHT OF THE THUGS

(By Jim Hoagland)

Fidel Castro has demonstrated anew his zest for creating mischief for a U.S. president seeking reelection. But Cuba's cold-blooded shooting down of two unarmed U.S. civilian aircraft on Saturday also shows the insecurity and desperation that now envelops the Western Hemisphere's last dictator and his kind.

The two Cessnas piloted by Cuban exiles, out to help fleeing rafters and perhaps drop propaganda leaflets on their homeland were mosquitoes buzzing around El Jefe's beard.

Castro was not strong enough to laugh them off. Instead he turned them into martyrs. His savage response is the act of a wounded, cornered animal fighting off the end.

To be sure, there is a mountain of politics and diplomacy to be worked through in the days to come, with debates flowing here over whether President Clinton's classically incremental response to the shoot-down was overly mild.

But the focus should stay on Castro and his regime, revolutionary relics floating like debris in the wake of the Soviet collapse of 1991. Just as time ran out on the Soviet Union five years ago, it is now running out for the rogue regimes and rulers who have clung to power in the Third World after the demise of their superpower protector.

The same lurching, cornered quality of the Cuban shoot-down is apparent in the grisly spat between Saddam Hussein and the two defectors-in-law he accepted back to Iraq and then had executed, and in Moammar Gadhafi's desperate efforts to construct the most grandiose poison gas factor in history in the empty Libyan desert. Instead of fiddling as their regimes crumble, these modern Neros pass their time by expanding their repertoire of murder and mass destruction.

North Korea plays out its version of the communist endgame by blackmailing the United States and its allies for financial help to stave off a total, sudden collapse. Vietnam plays the game by opening up to foreign investment and trade, an approach Syria toys with, trying to wrinkle concessions out of Warren Christopher and Shimon Peres for doing so. China and Iran, which also practice Soviet-style tyranny at home and criminality abroad, do not—alas—appear to be as close to revolutionary burnout. But cheer up. I could be wrong, particularly about China.

Why get our hopes up now? Because the extinguishing of the Soviet sun has left this shrinking universe of thug-rulers without a center, without a system of political gravity. They have lost their international reason to exist. They have coasted for five years on the strength of brute force and in some cases on the political and financial glory of nationalized oil or other resources coveted by the West.

But the disgrace and isolation Castro, Gadhafi, Saddam, Syria's Hafez Assad, North Korea's Kims and the others have brought on their nations can no longer be justified in the name of international revolutionary glory or hidden from their citizens. The growing isolation of the world's outlaws is underscored by their willingness to serve as platforms for the pitch of an itinerant American snake oil salesman—that is, for the race-baiting of Louis Farrakhan, recently hosted by Gadhafi, Saddam, and ayatollahs and the criminals who run Nigeria, and others.

Farrakhan is no doubt right when he says he has a constitutional right to travel to these countries and meet with whomever he likes. But Americans who were willing to grant him the benefit of the doubt based on his Million Man March, and promises of reconciliation and tolerance he voiced there, would be fools to continue that openness after his Grand Tour of Murder Inc. International.

Congress should not give Farrakhan a new platform by bringing him to town to hearings that, as a master showman, he can manipulate. Farrakhan has said everything Americans need to know by kissing the bloodstained rings of the killers with whom he has cavorted on this trip.

But this does not mean that America should passively wait for the world's second-tier thugs and their would-be acolytes to disappear into the sunset created by the col-

lapse of communism. Keep the focus on the Friends of Farrakhan. Make it clear that any financial transactions between the rogues and any Americans, including Farrakhan, will be investigated and if warranted prosecuted. President Clinton should not remain silent on the minister's travels.

On Cuba, keep the focus on Castro. Clinton's Republican rivals lack a sense of history and proportionality in concentrating their fire not on Castro but on the president's low-key, still evolving response to the shoot-down. We fall into Castro trap if we let these murders become an American political football. You can almost hear Castro laughing and saying, "There they go again."

J. MICHAEL McLEOD, CIVIC LEADER AND ATTORNEY

HON. DAVID FUNDERBURK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 29, 1996

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, it is a special pleasure for me to pay tribute to one of Harnett County's finest citizens, J. Michael McLeod. McLeod, Hardison & Harrop is one of the leading attorney firms in Harnett County. And no one—Republican or Democrat—is more respected for his fairness and legal expertise than Mike McLeod, senior partner in his law firm founded by his father Max McLeod. Most notable about Mike is the fact that he is not pretentious but down-to-earth. And he is never too busy to stop to chat with friends or strangers in Dunn, NC. One admirer told me that what you see is what you get with Mike and that he is always up-front with you.

Mr. J. Michael McLeod has an outstanding background of education, sacrifice for his country and community involvement. McLeod graduated in 1962 from Dunn High School where he was vice president of the student body, president of the Hi-Y Club and football standout. He got a B.A. degree in 1966 from Wake Forest University where he was a member of the honor council, Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Scabbard & Blade Honorary Military Society, and Distinguished Military Graduate, and he earned a juris doctor degree in 1969 at Wake Forest University Law School, where he was a member of the Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity.

McLeod served in the U.S. Army Infantry at the rank of captain. He served at Ft. Benning and Ft. Bragg and for 1 year in Vietnam. For his meritorious service in Vietnam he was awarded a Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Bronze Star Medal. He showed great courage under fire in Vietnam.

In civic, community and political affairs, Mike McLeod has been quite active. He is a member of the Palmyra Masonic Lodge, the Dunn Shrine Club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Harnett County Bar Association, the North Carolina Bar Association, and the United Carolina Bank Advisory Board. He served two terms as chairman of the Harnett County Republican Party and has been active in political affairs in the county and State for more than two decades. Mike lives with his wife, Karen—who teaches at Western Harnett High School and two children, Susan and Bruce Walls, in Dunn, NC.