

Bio Medical Maintenance department. As a result of her accomplishments, Alisa developed greater leadership, organizational and planning skills. Her thoughtfulness also contributed widely to Fairbanks and its surrounding communities. I believe that Alisa should receive the public recognition due to her for these significant services to her community and her country.

IN TRIBUTE TO M.L. "LIN"
KOESTER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my good friend M.L. "Lin" Koester, who will retire tomorrow as the Chief Administrative Officer for the County of Ventura, California.

Lin is one of those exceptional administrators whose special talent is recognizing, and motivating, talent in others. Many of those who worked for him during his 16-year tenure as City Manager of the City of Simi Valley, California, are now city managers in cities across California and the West. It would not be an exaggeration to say he has had a positive influence on elected officials as well. I had the pleasure of serving with him during my entire time on the Simi Valley City Council, including two terms as the city's first elected mayor.

I moved on, as did many others who worked with Lin. Others who served on the Simi Valley City Council during Lin's tenure have gone on to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, the California Assembly and the California Senate.

Lin is a quiet administrator who would be the last to tout his own accomplishments. His accomplishments are many.

In Simi Valley, Lin earned a reputation as a fiscally responsible manager who kept the city in the black during economically trying times while still providing essential services to residents. With an engineer's eye for details and a discipline born from a stint as a U.S. Navy submarine officer, Lin steered the council through the financing of a new City Hall, the Senior Center, a DMV office and a Cultural Arts Center. Lin was also among those instrumental in the decision to build the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley.

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors was wise to hire Lin as their CAO in 1995. During his tenure, he eliminated a projected General Fund imbalance, consolidated the Human Resources Department and Chief Administrative Office, and revamped the annual budget process. In addition, he initiated a county-wide technology upgrade and policy guidelines.

Lin is a modest man and an effective and efficient administrator. But, above all, it is his loyalty as a friend that I treasure most.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing M.L. "Lin" Koester for his decades of dedicated service and in wishing him and his family Godspeed in his retirement.

AN ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF
FOREIGN POLICY

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to comment to you the article written by Mr. Frank Calzon, entitled "Foreign Policy: Words as powerful as actions." Mr. Calzon is the executive director of the Center for a Free Cuba in Washington, D.C. and is a tireless fighter for democratic causes. I encourage my colleagues to benefit from his excellent article.

FOREIGN POLICY: WORDS AS POWERFUL AS
ACTIONS

(By Frank Calzon)

"Sticks and stones will break your bones, but words will never hurt you" is fine advice for the young, but it will never cut mustard in foreign policy. History is full of tragedies that could have been prevented, but for the thoughtlessness of a policy pronouncement.

Children's rhymes were the last thing on the mind of Secretary of State Dean Acheson when, preoccupied with Stalin's expansion into Central Europe, he spoke at the National Press Club in Washington on Jan. 12, 1950. In the speech, which had been approved by the White House, Acheson outlined America's "defense perimeter" in the Pacific, clearly leaving out the Korean peninsula. Five months later, Kim II Sung's armies, confident that Washington wouldn't intervene, invaded South Korea. Thus began the Korean War, a conflict in which thousands of Americans lost their lives.

Acheson's blunder came to mind recently while reading a July 7 article in *The New York Times* in which an unidentified Clinton-administration official talked about "a conscious decision in this administration to do what need to be done." The *Times* ominously explained that to mean "American officials say they are now determined to go forward [with their commitment to relaxing U.S. sanctions against Fidel Castro's regime] even if Mr. Castro responds by cracking down on dissent."

Ironically, the statement coincides with a reappraisal of Canada's longstanding policy of "constructive engagement" with Havana. Despite tourism, trade and foreign aid, Castro remains oblivious to Canada's pleadings on behalf of human rights. Canada's most influential media have called for a tougher stand vis a vis Castro, and a not-so-subtle message to that effect was delivered recently. The new Cuban ambassador presented credentials in Ottawa in an elegant room in which almost all of the chairs set up for official guests were empty.

The new U.S. policy—assuming the report is accurate—is at odds with Americans humanitarian impulse. It could have serious consequences for U.S. policy in the Americas because President Clinton's hemispheric policy is predicated on support for democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

One can only wonder what the consequences would have been had the United States told Moscow that, regardless of its mistreatment of human-rights dissidents, Washington cooperation would remain on track. Or what might have been Poland's fate had the United States signaled to Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski that it was all right for him to crack down on dissents. Instead, to its credit, the Reagan administration imposed trade sanctions on Warsaw when it tried to crack down on Solidarity.

Years earlier Jimmy Carter had electrified the world with his call for worldwide respect

for human rights. Due both to its source and its content, the idea that greater repression in Cuba will not impact U.S. policy undermines Clinton's publicly stated views and Secretary of State Madeline Albright's repeated and principled efforts to mobilize international support for the victims of Castro's repression.

Like Kim II Sung almost 50 years ago, Castro will interpret the statements attributed to the Clinton administration as a green light for whatever steps he takes. Also, foreign governments that would rather not confront Castro's rhetoric (at the United Nations in Geneva, Cuban diplomats labeled those concerned about human rights in Cuba "lackeys" of the United States) now will find it even easier to turn to deaf ear to the Cuban people's cries for help.

Is it really in America's national interest to broadcast such fickleness to our enemies, repeating Acheson's error? It certainly is not. However, this is exactly what is occurring when senior Clinton-administration officials tell Castro that U.S. policy will not be affected by a crackdown on Cuba's courageous and beleaguered opposition.

How can the Clinton administration claim that it cares about the Cuban people's fate while erasing whatever remaining uncertainty Castro may have about America's intentions? How many ways are there to spell disaster? Several weeks have passed, but it is not too late for the President to order an investigation and reaffirm his commitment to supporting the Cuban people's aspirations for freedom.

HONORING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE VILLAGE OF
CAHOKIA

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 300th Anniversary of the Village of Cahokia.

As we near the end of this millennium, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the history of the small towns within all of our districts. Throughout this year, Cahokia, a village in my district, continues to celebrate its tricentennial anniversary, with reflection on its vital place in American history.

The Village of Cahokia derives its name, which means "Wild Geese," from the Cahokia Indian tribe. While the Cahokian tribe continues to provide a vital, unique character to the region, in 1699, the diversity of the community was further strengthened with Cahokia's founding by missionary priests from the Seminary of Quebec.

As the 18th century progressed, this community also became the principal commercial center in the Midwest. Specializing in the trade of Indian goods and fur, Cahokia's economic development thrived. This served as the impetus for prompting the expansion of agriculture as a viable livelihood, which was so necessary to feed the rapidly growing community of settlers.

The Village of Cahokia also took pride in its role in winning a battle of the American Revolution. Captain Joseph Bowman and George Rogers Clark negotiated peace agreements in Cahokia at Fort Bowman with neighboring tribes of the Illini Confederation, and then launched an attack on British-occupied Vincennes. Both their soldiers and ammunition

were primarily supplied by the residents of Cahokia.

Cahokia has long been recognized as a significant force in Illinois politics. In the 18th and 19th centuries, the Cahokia Courthouse served as an important center of activity in the Northwest. At one point it was both the judicial and administrative center for a massive area which rose up to the borders of Canada.

Today, I am honored to represent Cahokia, which has embraced its heritage of both Native-American history, as well as the influx of French and other ethnicities, spurred by westward expansion. This close community of churches, civic groups, and businesses inspires us to remember the legacy of our forefathers, while also celebrating the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Village of Cahokia in commemoration of its 300th Anniversary.

HONORING PIANO LEGEND
JOHNNIE JOHNSON

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus to honor one of the most influential musicians in American history, Mr. Johnnie Clyde Johnson.

Johnnie was born the son of a coal miner in Fairmont, West Virginia, on July 8, 1924. He began playing the piano at the age of 5, on a second-hand upright his mother had purchased as a decoration. Unable to afford lessons, Johnnie practices and absorbed the sounds of big band jazz and swing, barrelhouse boogie and country western that he heard on the radio. His heroes were the piano players: Count Basie, Art Tatum, Earl Hines, Pete Johnson and Meade Lux Lewis. Johnnie studied each man's repertoire, mixing and matching until he found his own unique style.

In 1943, with the War in full tilt, Johnnie enlisted in the Marines and became one of the first 1,500 black soldiers in this branch of service. He later had an opportunity to join the company band—The Barracudas—an elite group made up of some of the finest jazz musicians in the world, including members of Count Basie's, Lionel Hampton's and Glenn Miller's bands. It was a dream come true to play alongside his radio idols at U.S.O. shows, and by the time he returned home in 1946, Johnnie had decided to make music his life.

Over the next few years, Johnnie honed his craft studying under the masters. After hearing T-Bone Walker in a Detroit club, he decided to move to Chicago, where the post-War blues scene was at its height. Befriending and sitting in with legends like Muddy Waters, Memphis Slim and Little Walter sharpened Johnnie's skills. When he finally settled down in St. Louis in March of 1952, he formed a band—The Johnnie Johnson Trio—and soon thereafter procured a regular gig at one of the biggest night spots in town—the Cosmopolitan Club.

Then fate stepped in. On New Year's Eve of 1952, Johnnie's saxophonist fell ill and was unable to make the show. Desperate for a replacement, Johnnie hired a fledgling guitarist named Chuck Berry to fill in for the night. Although he had only been playing profes-

sionally for six months, Berry had a gift for performance and a way with words that caught the attention of audiences. Johnnie decided to keep him on as a singer/guitarist, and for the next two years, The Johnnie Johnson Trio rocked the Cosmopolitan every weekend.

In 1955, while still performing as The Johnnie Johnson Trio, Johnnie, Chuck Berry and Ebby Hardy traveled to Chicago and, along with Chess studio stalwart Willie Dixon, recorded "Maybellene" for Chess Records. The record was a hit and quickly reached number five on the charts. It was then that Berry approached his partner about taking over the band. Confident of Berry's business acumen, and yearning simply to ply his craft—the piano—Johnnie entrusted Berry with his band. And so it was that Johnnie became the silent partner in the first writing/performing team in the history of rock and roll. Together, with Johnnie's musical inspiration and Berry's gift of poetry, they collaborated over the course of the next 20 years to create the songs that defined the genre, including "Roll Over Beethoven," "School Days," "Back in the U.S.A.," "Rock and Roll Music" and "Sweet Little Sixteen" among many, many others. In fact, the song that may consider the "national anthem" of rock and roll—"Johnny B. Goode"—was a tribute written by Berry to his musical partner and collaborator—Johnnie Johnson.

Johnnie and Berry performed and recorded together through the 1970s. However, as Berry's popularity grew, and he began traveling internationally, Johnnie elected to stay home in St. Louis. During this time, Johnnie also recorded with the legendary Albert King, for whom he contributed a great number of musical arrangements. But through it all—the birth of rock and roll with Chuck Berry and the inspired recordings with Albert King, Johnnie toiled largely unrecognized by the public.

That is, until 1986, when Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards sought out Johnnie for the documentary Hail! Hail! Rock 'n' Roll. Richards observed that many of Chuck Berry's songs were written in piano keys and that without Johnnie's melodies, the most influential songs in rock and roll history would be "just a lot of words on paper." Moreover, Johnnie's performance during the film left no doubts as to his unequalled prowess at the keyboard.

Since the film, Johnnie has begun to receive the public acclaim he so justly deserves. Widely recognized by the industry as the world's greatest living blues pianist, he has released six solo albums and contributed his considerable talent to recordings by John Lee Hooker, Eric Clapton, Buddy Guy, Bo Diddley and the late Jimmy Rogers.

Johnnie Johnson has suffered for his art. Yet, through it all, he has never lost the gentle, self-effacing demeanor that causes everyone he meets to love him. He has no bitterness, no regrets. Equally at home playing in front of thousands, or in a tiny club with a local band, Johnnie plays for the sake of playing. "All I want to do is play my piano," he says. "I'm just glad that I have the chance to make people happy." I am honored, Mr. Speaker, to present to the 106th Congress, a man who has never lost touch with what it means to be a musician—the Father of Rock and Roll, Mr. Johnnie Johnson.

JERRY BUTKIEWICZ, 1999 LABOR
LEADER OF THE YEAR

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend Jerry Butkiewicz as he is honored at the September 11, 1999, John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet as the 1999 Labor Leader of the Year Award.

As the Secretary-Treasurer of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, Jerry Butkiewicz has achieved an outstanding record of contributions on behalf of working women and men.

Mr. Butkiewicz began his involvement in the labor movement while working for the United States Postal Service in Arizona where he was elected Shop Steward and then President of the local American Postal Workers Union (APWU). He continued his involvement when he relocated to California and was promptly elected President of the Oceanside, California APWU Local.

Soon after, he was appointed the Labor Liaison to the United Way of San Diego County. In 1996, he was the unanimous choice to serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council. In this role, he has worked hard for the cause of working families and has given union members reasons to be proud of their union membership.

Mr. Butkiewicz has also been very active in his community and has served on the Boards of the United Way, the Neighborhood House Association, the Economic Development Board of San Diego County and the Labor Advisory Committee of Kaiser Permanente. He has also committed his time and energies to the San Diego Food Bank, Youth Baseball, and Pop Warner Football.

His leadership exemplifies the high values, standards, and principles exemplified by the late John S. Lyons.

My congratulations go to Jerry Butkiewicz for these significant contributions. I can personally attest to Jerry's dedication and commitment and believe him to be highly deserving of the 1999 Johns Labor Leader of the Year Award.

FEDERAL LANDS IMPROVEMENT
ACT

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the Bureau of Land Management [BLM] has 264 million acres that it manages for the federal government. None of this land is national park or national forest land.

The BLM has identified three million acres that it would like to sell, because it is not environmentally significant, surrounded by private land, difficult to manage, or isolated.

Today, I have introduced the Federal Lands Improvement Act which will allow the sale of this land, with proceeds to go; one-third to the counties where the land is located for schools and other needs; one-third to the national