

TRIBUTE TO MYLES TIERNEY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 1999

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to the family of Myles Tierney. Myles Tierney was a journalist with the Associated Press who was tragically killed in a rebel attack while on assignment in Sierra Leone. Known as a vibrant young man who had a passion for traveling and journalism, he was a true journalist in the sense that he reported on news that would educate and inform the public. He was willing to put himself in harm's way to report on a story of significant value.

Mr. Tierney grew up in the SoHo area of New York City. His father, a mathematics professor, and his mother, a performance artist, allowed their son to nurture his creative abilities at an early age. He channeled these interests into journalism, and while attending Rutgers University for a period of time he realized he would rather pursue a career in the field he loved.

Mr. Tierney's career with the Associated Press began when he was hired in 1994 to produce news videos. In 1997, he was assigned to Nairobi. In Africa, he would travel throughout the continent covering stories in war-ravaged countries, often putting his own life in peril. His passion for journalism and love for his job allowed him to look beyond the dangers before him and bring news to the people throughout the world. For Myles Tierney, that was worth the risk.

Along with journalism, Mr. Tierney's other passion was traveling. This made working abroad in the remotest regions of Africa that much more appealing to him. Some journalists might have avoided such a challenge, but Myles Tierney jumped at the opportunity. His friends and colleagues say that he actually liked to travel to the most inhospitable of areas to cover a story. He cared deeply about his role as a journalist, and the real issues that affect the world around us.

Myles Tierney will be remembered by his family and friends as an individual of charm who had a passion for journalism. He did his best to inform others about world events—events that other journalists were reluctant to cover because they were less glamorous or too dangerous. He lived his life-long dream: traveling the globe, informing the world. Myles Tierney was an exceptional young man who will be truly missed.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE DR. FREDERICA WILSON, ROLE MODEL OF EXCELLENCE

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to pay tribute to one of south Florida's distinguished daughters, the Honorable Dr. Frederica Wilson, a champion of poor and minority students. After an extended period of distinguished community service in Miami, Dr. Wilson was elected

recently to the Florida House of Representatives in Tallahassee.

Prior to her election to the state legislature, Dr. Wilson was a member of the Miami-Dade County School Board and was principal of Skyway Elementary School for twelve years. Dr. Wilson earned her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Fisk University, and her M.A. degree in Supervision and Administration from the University of Miami. Dr. Wilson received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Miami's Florida Memorial College.

Dr. Wilson is the founder of the 500 Role Models of Excellence Project, providing role models, training, and workshops for minority boys in the county's public school system. Dr. Wilson has introduced many initiatives to the Miami-Dade County School Board, including the annual "Keep Me Safe" march and vigil, when time is allocated for students and the community to honor children lost due to unsafe environments.

Dr. Wilson's inventiveness knows no bounds when fostering safety for Florida's students. One of the initiatives which she introduced has been "Drug and Alcohol Awareness Fridays." And every Friday is "Say No to Drugs" Day in the public schools of Miami-Dade County.

In 1997, the 500 Role Models Project was cited by President Clinton and General Colin Powell as a leading volunteer teaching model for the nation at the President's Summit for America's Future in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

With other Florida leaders, such as Governor Jeb Bush, Dr. Wilson also recently participated in the sixty annual 500 Role Models of Excellence Project's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Scholarship Breakfast on Miami Beach in January, 1999.

While in our nation's capital to attend a White House function with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Dr. Wilson had the opportunity also to visit the Congress on February 3. I look forward to working with Dr. Wilson towards resolving the challenges facing our home state. Miami indeed is fortunate to have such a capable and devoted public servant among the ranks of its community leaders.

WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL ON HONG KONG COURT DECISION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would ask to submit for the RECORD an important editorial that appeared in the February 10, 1999 Washington Post concerning China's negative reaction to a recent high court decision in Hong Kong. The Members of the Task Force on Hong Kong, created at your request of former Speaker Gingrich to observe and report on conditions in Hong Kong following its reversion to China, are closely monitoring these developments. Indeed, the Task Force submitted its most recent report to be printed in the February 9, 1999 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

It is important to note that the decision by the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeals rightly asserts that body's right to interpret Hong Kong law for the people of Hong Kong. However, very sensitive issues must still be re-

solved, including how to limit the number of individuals seeking permanent entry into Hong Kong and whether it is Hong Kong or Beijing that makes the final determination on that number. Most importantly, however, this Member hopes that the Beijing authorities and the Government of the People's Republic of China will be cognizant of the importance of preserving the principles of autonomy and the rule of law that underlie the prosperity and liberty of Hong Kong and its people.

Mr. Speaker, this Member asks to insert this excellent editorial in the RECORD.

"MAKE OR BREAK" IN HONG KONG

In the 19 months since Hong Kong reverted to China, the worst fears have not come true. Beijing has for the most part kept its hands off the former British colony as promised, allowing Hong Kong to manage its own affairs. Now the two entities may be approaching a crisis that determines whether Hong Kong can maintain substantive independence. It is "make-or-break time," the chairman of Hong Kong's bar association, Ronny Teng, said yesterday.

A decision by Hong Kong's highest court triggered the confrontation. The decision ostensibly concerned the rights of children born in China to at least one Hong Kong parent to settle in Hong Kong. The court said they could, even if born out of wedlock. But the significance of the decision lay elsewhere, in its legal reasoning. For the first time, the court claimed for itself the authority to interpret Hong Kong law for Hong Kong. On most matters, in other words, the final word should not rest with Beijing. And more than that: Hong Kong laws should be interpreted above all with a deference to Hong Kong autonomy and an understanding that rights and freedoms are "the essence of Hong Kong's civil society." The contrast to China's arbitrary one-party dictatorship could not have been sharper.

The decision has not sat well in Beijing. Four "legal experts" were the first to express dismay. Then Zhao Qizheng, a senior cabinet official, called the decision a mistake. Yesterday a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman in Beijing chimed in, saying the government was "closely following" the ruling.

The idea of "one country, two systems" was an experiment from the start. Trying to maintain an island of free enterprise and relative democracy within a Communist state was never going to be easy. But its success is crucial, not only to residents of Hong Kong but to China's credibility in the world and to those nations—such as the United States—that pledged to stand up for Hong Kong's freedom.

Now Beijing officials are threatening that success. Not only Hong Kong's liberty but its prosperity as well is at stake, since local and foreign companies alike will be reluctant to invest in Hong Kong if its rule of law can be compromised and superseded by party apparatchiks in Beijing. The Clinton administration should make clear that it, too, is "closely following" developments.

HONORING JOHN M. ALEXANDER, JR. FOR PUBLIC SERVICE IN THE AREA OF LEADERSHIP

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 1999

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the attention of the Congress to the work of

John M. Alexander, Jr. of Cardinal International Trucks, Inc. in Raleigh, North Carolina, recipient of the ATD/Heavy Duty Trucking Dealer of the Year Award honoring his outstanding leadership within the truck industry and the community. Mr. Alexander's accomplishment is particularly exceptional because his father, John Alexander, Sr., won the NADA/Time Magazine Dealer of the Year Award in 1968.

John Alexander started working sorting parts in his father's dealership when he was twelve years old. During ensuing years, he worked in various departments of the family business, climbing up the company ladder. In 1981, he became the new President and General Manager of Cardinal International Trucks. In addition to running his dealership, he also holds the position of secretary/treasurer of the UD National Dealer Council and serves as a "grassroots lobbyist" for the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association.

John Alexander, Jr. is not only active in the truck industry, but he is also very active in his community. When Mr. Alexander is not at work he can be found raising funds for schools and local charities. His efforts helped supply Lacy Elementary School with their first computer lab. He has also shown his dedication to maintaining a strong relationship between fathers and schools by co-founding a program called the "Dad's Lunch Bunch," which also allows him time to spend with his daughters, Mary Carroll who is sixteen and Catherine McKnight who is fourteen.

I commend Mr. Alexander for his hard work in both the Raleigh community and the truck industry. I encourage my colleagues to read the following article announcing his important work and achievement:

1998 DEALER OF THE YEAR JOHN ALEXANDER, JR.

Alexander's first job in his father's dealership was counting parts at age 12. From there he worked his way through virtually every department—service, parts, administration and sales—until becoming president and general manager in 1981.

He has been an active participant in numerous industry activities. He is secretary/treasurer of the UD National Dealer Council, a "grass roots lobbyist" for the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Assn. and serves on the technical training committee of North Carolina Industries for Technical Education.

In his community he's a tireless fund-raiser for charitable organizations and the local schools. Largely due to his efforts, one local elementary school was the first in the county to get a computer lab and computers in each classroom. He co-founded the "Dad's Lunch Bunch," a program aimed at getting fathers more involved in the schools, and is spearheading a drive to update computer technology in a local school.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
ROBERT JONES

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 1999

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and exemplary career of local industrial giant from my district in California's great Central Valley.

Robert Jones recently announced his retirement after an extraordinary career of 47 years

with N.I. Industries, Inc. With the exception of only 7 months, Bob's entire career, which began in 1952, has been in manufacturing ammunition metal products. The last 25 years of his career have been in a managerial capacity. Without question, Bob's career significantly contributed to our ability to win the cold war.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to take a moment to reflect on Bob's career. He has proven that a young man with a willingness to work who takes responsibility for his actions can succeed and achieve the American dream. His is a story of hard work and success.

Bob ends his career at the highest level of management in his company. During his most recent position as general manager of the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant, since 1988 he has implemented an ambitious, yet highly successful, environmental program which was recognized last year by the Department of Defense as the Nation's leader in industrial environmental remediation.

He also implemented a highly successful Armament Retooling and Manufacturing program to transform an idle manufacturing facility into inspired reuse—providing for more than a 300-percent increase in the local work force. His efforts have resulted in annual reductions in the operating budget by more than 50 percent.

Finally, Bob was instrumental in the development of the West Coast Deep Drawn Cartridge Case Facility at Riverbank to help continue to meet our Nation's munitions needs. His management skills have proven that we are indeed losing a true industrial giant.

Mr. Speaker, Bob reflects great credit on the dedication to the many men and women at the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant and the entire 18th Congressional District.

I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to Bob and his wife, Pat. I wish him health and happiness in his retirement years and hope he gets to enjoy the company of his three children and grandchildren. I ask that my colleagues rise with me in honoring Robert Jones in his retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL MATERIALS CORRIDOR PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 1999

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 1999

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, today I want to introduce the National Materials Corridor Partnership Act of 1999. I am joined by Mr. BINGAMAN who will be introducing the same legislation in the Senate today as well.

Members of the House are aware of my long-standing interest in improving scientific and technological cooperation between the United States and Mexico. The purpose of this bill is to promote joint research in materials science between research institutions in the border region.

The shared border region between the United States and Mexico has become increasingly important to the economies of both countries. The border region is a center of manufacturing, mining, metal, ceramics, plas-

tics, cement, and petrochemical industries. Materials and materials-related industries are a significant element of the industrial base(s) on both sides of the border, accounting for more than \$7 billion in revenue on the Mexican side alone. In addition, there are more than 800 multinational "maquiladora" industries valued at more than \$1 billion in the San Diego/Tijuana and El Paso/Juarez regions. These materials-related industries, providing tens of thousands of jobs in both countries, are critical to the economic health of the border region. However, these same industries, in conjunction with continued population growth, have placed severe stress on the environment, natural resources and the public health of the region.

More needs to be done to harness the scientific and technical resources on both sides of the border to address these problems. Scientific and technological advances in the development and application of materials and materials processing provide major opportunities for significant improvements in minimizing industrial wastes and pollutants. Similar opportunities exist to eliminate or minimize emissions of global climate change gases and contaminants, to utilize recycled materials for production, and to allow for the more efficient use of energy. Recognizing these opportunities, academic and research institutions in the border region of both countries, together with private sector partners, recently proposed a Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative. This Initiative proposes joint collaborative efforts by more than 40 institutions to develop and promote the usage of clean eco-friendly and energy efficient sustainable materials technology in the border region. Organizations involved in the Material Corridor Partnerships Initiative include pre-eminent universities and national laboratories located on both sides of the border.

While the Initiative envisions conducting a strong cooperative program between universities and national labs, private sector participation also will be an integral part of its activities. One model for such participation is the Business Council for Sustainable Development (BCSD). In addition to the BCSD model, special industrial outreach programs would be developed to aid industry in problem solving, especially related to materials limitations, environmental protection and energy efficiency. Another important element of the Materials Corridor proposal is the education and training of the next generation of researchers.

Mexican institutions strongly support this initiative and have committed seed money to implement the program among Mexican institutions. I hope that the U.S. Government will also support this proposal. To this end, I am introducing the "National Materials Corridor Partnership Act of 1999. The bill provides, among other things, authorization of \$5 million for each of fiscal year 2000 through 2004 to fund appropriate research and development in support of the Materials Corridor Partnership Initiative. The monies would be used to support joint programs and would leverage support from the private sector in both countries, as well as the Government of Mexico.

I want to commend Senator BINGAMAN for his long-standing interest in improving scientific and technological cooperation between the United States and Mexico. And I look forward to working with him to realize the goals of this legislation.