

IN HONOR OF GIRLS INC.

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor the achievements of Girls Inc. on the celebration of its 50th Anniversary.

Girls Inc. is a nonprofit youth organization dedicated to providing important educational programs to young women, particularly those in high-risk, underserved areas. Throughout the years, Girls Inc. has been a key influence in the lives of millions of Americans and it has helped many wonderful young Delawareans achieve their hopes and dreams.

The programs of Girls Inc. work to improve math and science education, drug abuse prevention, media literacy, economic literacy, adolescent health, violence prevention, and sports participation. In addition, Girls Inc. promotes health and safety initiatives through programs such as "Will Power/Won't Power," which addresses teen pregnancy and "Action for Safety," which teaches teens to become advocates for issues affecting young women. It also hosts outreach programs that are designed for young women who live in public housing.

During the past 50 years, Girls Inc. has done much to address critical issues facing young women across the nation. In Delaware, the important work of Girls Inc. should not go unnoticed. Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Girls Inc. for their dedication to improving and enhancing the lives of women. Its contribution in Delaware should serve as an example to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, because of an emergency in my district, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 276, 277, and 278. If present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote Nos. 276, 277, and 278.

ATTORNEY GENERAL ASHCROFT
POLITICIZES THE WAR ON
TERRORISM**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the attached column by Paul Krugman in today's New York Times. Mr. Krugman describes how the Attorney General has politicized the war on terrorism.

[From the New York Times, June 22, 2004]

NOONDAY IN THE SHADE

(By Paul Krugman)

In April 2003, John Ashcroft's Justice Department disrupted what appears to have

been a horrifying terrorist plot. In the small town of Noonday, Tex., F.B.I. agents discovered a weapons cache containing fully automatic machine guns, remote-controlled explosive devices disguised as briefcases, 60 pipe bombs and a chemical weapon—a cyanide bomb—big enough to kill everyone in a 30,000-square-foot building.

Strangely, though, the attorney general didn't call a press conference to announce the discovery of the weapons cache, or the arrest of William Krar, its owner. He didn't even issue a press release. This was, to say the least, out of character. Jose Padilla, the accused "dirty bomber," didn't have any bomb-making material or even a plausible way to acquire such material, yet Mr. Ashcroft put him on front pages around the world. Mr. Krar was caught with an actual chemical bomb, yet Mr. Ashcroft acted as if nothing had happened.

Incidentally, if Mr. Ashcroft's intention was to keep the case low-profile, the media have been highly cooperative. To this day, the Noonday conspiracy has received little national coverage.

At this point, I have the usual problem. Writing about John Ashcroft poses the same difficulties as writing about the Bush administration in general, only more so: the truth about his malfeasance is so extreme that it's hard to avoid sounding shrill.

In this case, it sounds over the top to accuse Mr. Ashcroft of trying to bury news about terrorists who don't fit his preferred story line. Yet it's hard to believe that William Krar wouldn't have become a household name if he had been a Muslim, or even a leftist. Was Mr. Ashcroft, who once gave an interview with Southern Partisan magazine in which he praised "Southern patriots" like Jefferson Davis, reluctant to publicize the case of a terrorist who happened to be a white supremacist?

More important, is Mr. Ashcroft neglecting real threats to the public because of his ideological biases?

Mr. Krar's arrest was the result not of a determined law enforcement effort against domestic terrorists, but of a fluke: when he sent a package containing counterfeit U.N. and Defense Intelligence Agency credentials to an associate in New Jersey, it was delivered to the wrong address. Luckily, the recipient opened the package and contacted the F.B.I. But for that fluke, we might well have found ourselves facing another Oklahoma City-type atrocity.

The discovery of the Texas cyanide bomb should have served as a wake-up call: 9/11 has focused our attention on the threat from Islamic radicals, but murderous right-wing fanatics are still out there. The concerns of the Justice Department, however, appear to lie elsewhere. Two weeks ago a representative of the F.B.I. appealed to an industry group for help in combating what, he told the audience, the F.B.I. regards as the country's leading domestic terrorist threat: ecological and animal rights extremists.

Even in the fight against foreign terrorists, Mr. Ashcroft's political leanings have distorted policy. Mr. Ashcroft is very close to the gun lobby—and these ties evidently trump public protection. After 9/11, he ordered that all government lists—including voter registration, immigration and driver's license lists—be checked for links to terrorists. All government lists, that is, except one: he specifically prohibited the F.B.I. from examining background checks on gun purchasers.

Mr. Ashcroft told Congress that the law prohibits the use of those background checks for other purposes—but he didn't tell Congress that his own staff had concluded that no such prohibition exists. Mr. Ashcroft issued a directive, later put into law requir-

ing that records of background checks on gun buyers be destroyed after only one business day.

And we needn't imagine that Mr. Ashcroft was deeply concerned about protecting the public's privacy. After all, a few months ago he took the unprecedented step of subpoenaing the hospital records of women who have had late-term abortions.

After my last piece on Mr. Ashcroft, some readers questioned whether he is really the worst attorney general ever. It's true that he has some stiff competition from the likes of John Mitchell, who served under Richard Nixon. But once the full record of his misdeeds in office is revealed, I think Mr. Ashcroft will stand head and shoulders below the rest.

LET'S MAKE AMERICA'S
INFRASTRUCTURE A PRIORITY BEFORE
IRAQ'S**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, clean water is again flowing into the Tigris River thanks to the U.S. Taxpayer and the good people from my home State of West Virginia. How grand, how good, how generous the Cheney-Bush bunch can be, until it comes to investing between America's shores.

Yes, health and welfare is on the mend from Baghdad to Kirkuk, but for our communities in Southern West Virginia, this Administration has no money.

I recommend to my colleagues a story on the front page of the New York Times this past Saturday by James Glanz. According to the article this project has been cloaked in secret for security reasons. I agree, it's for security alright, to secure the Cheney-Bush reelection. They don't want the American people to know that they build in Baghdad while we weep in Appalachia for clean streams, a healthy environment, and a safe harbor for our children.

Last week, another decision was made to deny the people of West Virginia, and of Appalachia, clean water, better health and education, as the House Appropriations Committee voted to cut the Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC) funding by 40 percent following on the heels of an effort by the Cheney-Bush boys last year to cut it by 50 percent.

Apparently the Cheney-Bush bunch, including their cronies in Congress, don't think twice about sending \$4 billion to Iraq for their water infrastructure needs, but are unwilling to provide the ARC less than 1/100th of that amount for services that do the same and more for West Virginia.

I can name a few better places to spend our taxpayers money.

In Raleigh County, just one of our wastewater projects is going to cost \$22.5 million to serve 1200 new customers in the Glen Daniel/Fairdale area. This is a matter of public health, of bringing in new jobs, fueling the economy. Where is the money for that program?

Greenbrier Valley Airport in Lewisburg is 35 years old, and in need of a new terminal. The upgrade is expected to cost \$15 million. Where is the money for Lewisburg?

Greenbrier Valley Airport's parking apron used for housing aircrafts, also needs a \$10

million upgrade. Due to lack of funding availability, this project has already been broken into six phases in the hope of completing it. But where are funds for these phases?

In Wyoming County, \$1 million is needed for a water project to serve 200 customers in the Crouch Farm area who presently have no water service at all. Where is their money?

The Cheney-Bush bunch wants to rebuild the oilfields of Iraq and expect the coalfields of West Virginia to pay for it. West Virginians are told by this Administration and this Congress that we can't afford to meet our wastewater needs, not when we're investing in other countries rather than our own.

What in the dickens is going on here, Mr. Speaker? I recall our not too distant history, when this Nation was able to fight and win a world war, rebuild the western European continent, and Japan to boot, and college educate a generation of Americans who fueled the greatest economic boon to which the world had never laid witness.

Now the Cheney-Bush bunch and the House leadership tell us again and again, there is no room for investment in America, and that the American people must take a back seat to the citizens of Baghdad.

I say no more. This Administration continues to show indifference to our Nation's infrastructure needs, including threatening to veto a highway bill that will bring over \$2 billion to my home State of West Virginia, money we need to build roads in a mountainous terrain.

Mr. Speaker, I recall—shortly after the bombs fell in Baghdad and the President pledging that America would rebuild Iraq—on a trip back home, folks in an economically hard hit county in West Virginia, in all seriousness, asked me to tell the President to send the bombers to them, so then they could apply for help from America.

It was a sad moment for me, Mr. Speaker, even sadder for America.

COMMEMORATING DR. DAVID WERNER'S LONG CAREER IN EDUCATION

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. David Werner's 36 years of service to students and colleagues at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

David Werner first came to SIUE as a faculty member in the School of Business. He would go on to serve as Dean of the School of Business, and eventually, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Effective September 1, 1997, Dr. Werner was named Chancellor of SIDE.

In addition to his position at SIUE, Dr. Werner serves as an advisor and board member for groups such as the Southwestern Illinois Higher Education Consortium and the Board of Governors of the Illinois Council on Economic Education.

On June 30 of this year, Dr. Werner will retire as Chancellor of SIUE, bringing an end to nearly four decades of devotion to higher education in southern Illinois. As an educator, I share the same passion for teaching and nurturing the next generation, and I wish to not

only commend Dr. Werner for his dedication, but to thank him for his commitment to excellence through education.

RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL J. ATTARDI IN APPRECIATION FOR A LIFETIME OF DEDICATION AND FRIENDSHIP TO THE COMMUNITY OF LONG BRANCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the late Michael J. Attardi, a dear friend to the sixth district of New Jersey. Mr. Attardi, a resident of Long Branch, was a well-known figure throughout his community. He will be sorely missed by family, friends, and neighbors.

Michael Attardi was a truly remarkable neighbor for Long Branch. While he was born in Neptune, he lived within the neighborhood of Long Branch for the past sixty-eight years. Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Attardi was well regarded for his prowess on the football field. His greatest high school success was to lead the "Green Wave" of Long Branch High School to a state football championship. Known as "Iron Mike" to his close friends and family, Mr. Attardi was named to the first team All-State and All-County football teams quite an honor for any athlete.

Not only was Mr. Attardi triumphant on the field during high school, he also was a star football player at the Valley Forge Military Academy. His attendance at this academy allowed him to be named to the All-American Football team in 1954. After years had passed, the City of Long Branch and the State of New Jersey honored Mr. Attardi by electing him to the Long Branch Athletic Hall of Fame for his star abilities on the football field.

Aside from being an accomplished athlete, Mr. Attardi honorably served his country in the United States Army. He was well decorated in his eight years of service and received four medals as a Military Police officer. Perhaps his greatest accomplishments were his family, his marriage of forty-five years to Frances Tortoretti, their three children, and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I am proud to acknowledge a truly great man for his dedication to family, community, and country. I ask that my colleagues join me in extending our sincerest condolences to the family of Mr. Michael J. Attardi. He will sorely be missed by everyone whose lives he touched.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING ANTHONY CHUNG-YI HO

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho has provided outstanding service and contributions while serving as the Senior Officer with the Taipei Economic Council and Cultural Representative and Senior Assistant to the Honor-

able C.J. Chen, Taiwan's chief representative in the United States; and

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho graduated from the National Taiwan University and joined Taiwan's foreign service in 1994; and

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho has worked diligently during his time in Washington, D.C., to improve the understanding of Taiwanese-American relations held by Members of the United States Congress and their staff; and

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho's service has served his country loyally and worked to establish a lasting friendship between officials in the Taiwanese and United States government; and

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho will be greatly missed once he returns to Taiwan with his family next month;

Therefore, I join with members of Congress and their staff in recognizing Anthony Chung-Yi Ho for his exceptional work and immense contributions, and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNITION OF DR. MARY JO OLDHAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished educator from Southern Illinois on the occasion of her retirement. Dr. Mary Jo Oldham served the residents of Southeastern Illinois for 40 years, as an instructor, a division chair, a vice president and then President of Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg.

Dr. Oldham began her career as an instructor at North Gallatin Community Unit High School in 1964. She moved on to Harrisburg High School, before taking a job at Southeastern Illinois College. Dr. Oldham has been deeply committed to the philosophy of the comprehensive community college, and has always been a strong advocate for the Illinois community college system. She has worked with a variety of grant projects, most of which were focused on curriculum development and the use of alternative delivery systems at SIC. In 2000, she became the fourth President of Southeastern Illinois College.

Dr. Mary Jo Oldham is a native of Shawneetown, Illinois. She resides in Shawneetown with her husband, Larry Morgan, a farmer. It is an honor to pay tribute to Dr. Oldham for her years of service to the people of Southeastern Illinois. She will be missed, but I want to wish her and her family a very happy and well-earned retirement. Dr. Oldham's career will serve as a model for community college administrators for years to come.